FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 NOVEMBER 1985

U.S. Hostages in Lebanon

An anonymous caller claiming to represent the Islamic Jihad group told a news agency in Beirut that his organization has decided to execute its American hostages because indirect negotiations between Islamic Jihad and the United States have reached a "dead end." He said "this sad end of the American hostages will not be the last one," and that "he and his comrades will shake the earth under the feet of the United States and its agents," Voice of Lebanon reported. Various sources reported that a second person claiming to represent Islamic Jihad called Western news agencies in Beirut to report that the American hostages had been executed, but gave differing accounts of where the bodies were to have been found. Monte Carlo radio reported that Beirut police have so far been unable to locate the bodies.

Iran-Iraq War

Ahvaz radio acknowledged that Iraqi planes raided "two industrial units" and nearby residential areas in Ahvaz, disclosing that 28 workers and residents were killed in the attack. Responding to the raid, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i warned that Iran will firmly answer every Iraqi attack, IRNA noted.

As for the war on land, an Iraqi military source cited by INA stated that Iraqi troops killed 109 Iranians during fighting in the Al-Hawizah marshes, the East Maysan sector, and the northern sector. IRNA had earlier claimed that Iranian forces killed or wounded over 75 Iraqis in the Sumar area.

GCC Summit

Commenting on the summit in a statement broadcast by Jeddah radio, Saudi King Fahd viewed the conference as another stage in the GCC's progress toward further cohesion and integration in order to preserve security and stability and promote economic and social development.

Libya

Arab students studying in Libya have pledged to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi that they will strike at U.S. interests wherever they may be in the world, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported. Meanwhile, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Tehran radio viewed the U.S. "plot" to overthrow the Libyan Government as "the most clear example of terrorism" and he expressed Iran's "decisive support" for Libya.

Egyptian View of U.S. Policy

There has been "progress" in the U.S. stand toward the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and this is exemplified by U.S. "acceptance" of an international conference, Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid asserted in remarks cited by MENA.

PLO-USSR

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denied that he will shortly visit the USSR in a statement published by the UAE paper *AL-KHALIJ*, though he stressed that Soviet-Palestinian relations are good with contacts continuing at all levels.

Israel

A Defense Ministry communique cited by Jerusalem radio announced the immediate closure of the settlers' newspaper *ALEF YOD in light of the attorney general's view that an article* printed by the paper constituted a "call to rebellion." The radio had earlier broadcast the IDF chief of staff's remark that he finds it "impossible" to conceive of a settler rebellion against the army.

Two Israelis and two Arabs were wounded in an incident near the village of Biddu, the radio noted.

Iran

A car-bomb exploded in Tehran 7 November, injuring three people, according to IRNA, which attributed the explosion to "agents of international arrogance."

Afghanistan

Responding to President Reagan's "hostile" statement against the DRA at the United Nations General Assembly, over 300,000 Afghans marched to the U.S. Embassy to protest U.S. "interference" in Afghan affairs, Kabul radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 216 *7 November 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Marchers at U.S. Embassy Protest Reagan UN Speech ..... C 1
Iranian Journalist Interviews Babrak Karmal ..... C 1
FRG's DER SPIEGEL Interviews Babrak Karmal *[Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 4 Nov]* ..... C 9

INDIA

Assam Elections To Take Place on 16 December ..... E 1
Student Organization Demands Release of Sikhs ..... E 1
Haryana Speaker To Meet Protesting Legislators ..... E 1
Unidentified Assailants Kill Punjab Policemen ..... E 1
Madras Atomic Plant Unit To Be Closed for 1 Month ..... E 1
INDIAN EXPRESS Writes on Gandhi's Visit to Moscow *[29 Oct]* ..... E 1
Gandhi Urged To Respond to Pakistan's Overtures *[INDIAN EXPRESS 31 Oct]* ..... E 2
HINDUSTAN TIMES Hails Growing Relations With *[20 Oct]* ..... E 2
PATRIOT Examines PRC Stand on Border Dispute *[25 Oct]* ..... E 2
Paper Writes on Sharing of Ganges With Bangladesh *[INDIAN EXPRESS 23 Oct]* ..... E 3
INDIAN EXPRESS Looks at Nuclear Power Develop *[31 Oct]* ..... E 4

PAKISTAN

Ziaul Haq Leaves Saudi Arabia for Qatar *[SPA]* ..... F 1
President, Prime Minister Greet Soviet Counterparts ..... F 1
Junejo To Pay Official Visit to PRC 17 Nov ..... F 1
Noorani Terms Gandhi Statements 'Baseless' ..... F 1
Police Claim Kabul Arming Border Tribes *[AFP]* ..... F 1
MASHRIQ on Ziaul Haq-Reagan Meeting, U.S. *[27 Oct]* ..... F 2
Papers on U.S., Indian Stand on Atomic Program ..... F 3
JANG Editorial *[27 Oct]* ..... F 3
NAWA-E WAQT Editorial *[28 Oct]* ..... F 3
MASHRIQ Editorial *[28 Oct]* ..... F 4
PAKISTAN TIMES on USSR Presence in Afghanistan *[29 Oct]* ..... F 4

OTHER COUNTRIES

BANGLADESH

Ershad Greets USSR Officials on October Anniversary ..... G 1
$40-million Trade Agreement With Pakistan Signed ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

Delhi: Jayewardene Meeting With Peres Confirmed ..... G 1
Total of 15 Killed by Landmines, Ambush Attacks ..... G 1

IRAN

Tehran Car-Bomb Blast Injures Three People ..... I 1
Further Reportage on Khamene'i Provincial Tour ..... I 1
Warns of Retaliation For Iraqi Attacks ..... I 1
Speaks in Shiraz, Departs ..... I 2

Return to Tehran ..... I 2
Musavi on Self-Reliance in Combatting Conspiracies ..... I 2
Foreign Ministry Condemns U.S. Plot Against Libya ..... I 3
Musavi Condemnation ..... I 3
Velayati Greets Shevardnadze on Anniversary ..... I 3
Al-Qadhdhafi, Sheykh ol-Eslam Discuss Cooperation ..... I 3
Central Bank Official on U.S. Debts, Oil Revenue *[AL-SHAHID 9 Oct]* ..... I 3
TV, Radio Chief on Role of Iranian Broadcast Media ..... I 4
Radio Urges GCC to Consider Regional Stability ..... I 4
Former Prisoner in France on 'Inhuman' Treatment ..... I 5
Iraqi Regime Destroys Own Villages, Kills Citizens ..... I 5
IRGC Officer Meets, Encourages Iraqi Mujahidin ..... I 5
Tehran Reports Iraqi Kurds Attack Iraqi Soldiers ..... I 6
Insurgents Attack Iraqi Troops ..... I 6
Qazvin, Zahedan Volunteers Leave for Battlefronts ..... I 6
Tehran Reports Clergymen Headed for Battlefields ..... I 6
Others Depart for Front ..... I 6
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 7
Ahvaz Bombed by Iraq ..... I 7
28 Killed ..... I 7
Communique No 2,281 ..... I 7
Opposition Paper Editorial on Elections, Khomeyni *[London KAYHAN 24 Oct]* ..... I 7
Mujahidin Attacks in Afghanistan Reported ..... I 8
IRNA Reports Afghan Rebels Down Helicopters ..... I 8

Marchers at U.S. Embassy Protest Reagan UN Speech

LD061829 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] The hostile statement of Ronald Reagan, the White House boss, to the United Nations General Assembly 40th session against revolutionary Afghanistan, has provoked the heroic Afghan peoples' endless indignation. On this occasion, more than 300,000 of our toiling compatriots, by organizing a protest march this morning in front of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, condemned U.S. imperialism and the notorious Reagan administration's blatant and open interference in the internal affairs of our free and independent country, Afghanistan.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reported that the marchers, including workers, peasants, members of the party and social organizations of Kabul City, state department staff, students, university students, patriotic religious and spiritual leaders, elders and leaders of tribes and nationalities, and artisans of Kabul City — carrying photographs of Babrak Karmal, PDPA Central Committee general secretary and DRA Revolutionary Council President, and state and party banners — chanted slogans, including: "Death to the U.S. Criminal Imperialism, This Enemy of the Prosperity and Freedom of Mankind," "Endless Hatred to Warmongerers," "We Condemn the Notorious Reagan Administration," "Take the Filthy Hands of Reaction and Imperialism Off Revolutionary Afghanistan," and dozens of other slogans. They marched along Jada-e Solh [Peace Street] and held a protest meeting in front of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that hundreds of thousands of Kabul citizens expressed indignation and resentment regarding the Reagan administration's interference in our country's domestic affairs. [chants heard in Pashto and Dari: "Death to U.S. Imperialism," "Death to the CIA," "Death to the American (?War mongers)," "Long Live the PDPA"]

The marchers at this great rally then released balloons on which these slogans were scribed: "Death to Warmongers," "Death to the Runners of the Machinery of the Reagan Administration," and we follow the path we have chosen.

Iranian Journalist Interviews Babrak Karmal

LD040356 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Interview with Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA and President of the DRA Revolutionary Council, with Iranian journalist Mostafa Danesh at the Revolutionary Council Headquarters; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Question] What is your view of the FRG?
[Answer] I must mention that despite traditional friendly relations between the people of the DRA and FRG, facts and credible documents show that the FRG authorities, in various ways, have intensified interference in the DRA'S internal affairs, and, in pursuing the irresponsible policy of Washington Administration, taken a broad part in the undeclared war of imperialist and reactionary war against our revolutionary government.

During the postrevolutionary years several members of the parliament, army, and other official FRG organs, with carlessness, and blatantly undermining the DRA laws and accepted international norms, together with armed counterrevolutionary bands, have entered our country illegally.

Juergen Todenhoefer, (Melan Rolley) and (Menzel), members of Bundestag; and Erik Kothny, currently a colonel in the FRG Army; physicians, journalists, and others, wearing various masks, alongside the counterrevolutionary bands, have taken part in destructive and terrorist activities against our people, and they have carried out espionage activities.

Juergen Todenhoefer, in December 1984, after returning to the FRG, said to the country's parliament that he had taken part in the subversive activities of the agitators, and that he traveled a long distance in Afghanistan with a number of journalists, with the direction and assistance of an agitator group.

It is noticeable that the German Government has never questioned these people and did not denounce any of their actions.

Think for a moment, if a foreign country sent a number of men into FRG territory in various way for subversion, what a cry would be raised by FRG officials. Ask them why they have remained silent and approved the violation of our country's sanctity by high-ranking FRG Government personnel, which is contrary to all accepted international norms.

The visit of the counterrevolutionary chieftains to the FRG, the country which has formal, political, and diplomatic relations with the DRA, and their meeting with the official authorities of the Federal Germany, demonstrate their unreserved support for the murder, assassination, plunder, and destruction of the counterrevolutionaries, and their hostility with the people Afghanistan. They are an open interference in the internal affairs of our country.

The official FRG mass media, in cooperation with the counterrevolutionary fascist line [as heard] of Afghanistan, and in order to distort public opinion, is (?altering facts).

The setting up of a transmitting station called the Voice of Free Afghanistan, which is the unworthy son of the Voice of America, was recently completed and financed by FRG Government to broadcast the usual lies and to intensify phycological warfare against our country.

Helmut Kohl, FRG chancellor, in his last visit to Pakistan, inspected the military training camps of the counterrevolutionaries. In provocative statements, he promised a further DM16 million in assistance to Afghan counterrevolutionary bands.

The sold-out counterrevolutionary elements, in collaboration with imperialist and [word indistinct] circles of Federal Germany, have three times since 1979 — in April 1979, January 1980, and August 1984 — attacked the DRA Embassy and have plundered documents, materials, and cash from the embassy, and have injured embassy personnel. The FRG Government has not fulfilled its duties to safegaurd the security of the DRA Embassy,

which was agreed upon in the Vienna Convention and other international contracts. As it has been seen, there is no area where the official authorities of Federal Germany are not involved in the undeclared war of imperialism and reaction against the DRA.

Obviously, this FRG Government policy via-a-vis our revolutionary government is contrary to the accepted international norms and is an outstanding example of the blatant interference in the DRA's internal affairs, which can neither assist in maintaining normal relations between our countries, nor help in finding a political solution to events around Afghanistan. However, we attach great respect to the FRG people, the German working class, who have great traditions and honors and struggle for peace, progress, and antifascism. The forces who are fighting against us are fighting against the working class of Germany too. Our people with the people of the FRG, as other people, have common phases and interests. We should rely on these common interests and the major one is safeguarding and consolidating peace.

I want to assure you that the reactionary circles, despite their futile strivings, cannot confront our revolution with defeat. Let time itself prove the futility of their strivings. Moreover, thesse circles cannot create hostility between the people of the FRG and the DRA.

[Question] For the past several days, your mass media has launched a broad propaganda campaign against the FRG and has accused one of the personnel of Germany Embassy for spying against Afghanistan. Do you not think that this propaganda can damage the friendship between the people of Afghanistan and Germany?
[Answer] In answering your previous question I explained in detail the role of the FRG official circles against the DRA. These circles are acting against the interests and traditional relations between the DRA and the FRG. The dispatch of spies under various covers, including under the guise of an embassy employee, is not consistent with international norms, interests, and wishes of both countries, the DRA and FRG.

The exposing of spies and foiling of foreign aggression, not only do not damage relations between the people, but consolidate them. The Federal German people know very well that the organizer and dispatcher of spies is those forces that have transformed Federal Germany territory into the arsenal and stockpile of U.S. nuclear weapons.

[Question] Mr President, allow me to talk about the present difficulties of Afghanistan. For nearly 6 years Soviet military units have been stationed in Afghanistan. For how much longer will the Soviet forces remain on your soil?
[Answer] There were reasons whereby the legal DRA Government invited the limited Soviet military units. We invited them in accordance with the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and good neighborliness dated 5 December 1978, and on the basis of Article 51 of the UN Charter.

These reasons included a direct threat to the independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the DRA by the imperialist and reactionary circles, who in an unholy and unprecedented extended unity, via the territory of Pakistan and Iran, waged an undeclared war against our national and democratic revolution. The invitation of the limited Soviet military units took place as a result of the intervention and aggression of imperialism, hegemonism, and reaction. Therefore, whenever the reasons and causes for inviting the limited Soviet military units by the legal DRA government are removed — that is to say all aggressions and intervention by reaction, imperialism, and hegemonism in our internal affairs, are ceased, and satisfactory international guarantees are being given for their nonrepetition — the DRA Government will hold talks on the return of these units to their great, peaceful territory, taking with them thanks and gratitude.

[Question] Do you not think that the people of Afghanistan are opposed to the existence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan?
[Answer] Maybe you have mistaken the overthrown exploiting strata and classes of our society, who lost their privileges after the victory of the April Revolution; who are the loyal mercenaries and servants of reaction, imperialism, and hegemonism; and who use the territories of Paksitan and Iran for committing destruction and reversing the revolutionary changes in the DRA, for the people. Certainly they are opposed to the existence of Soviet military forces in our country because they have sold their souls and conscience to imperialism for the sake of their greedy class interests. Our people, however, those who toil for progress and the advancement of society, need their country to continue with full confidence upon the independent path of progress and social justice, being safe from the aggression of reaction and imperialism and their separatist designs. Today the people realize well that the continuation of fundamental socioeconomic changes is possible if they can bridle the enraging invasion force of the U.S. Administration and its regional allies and hirelings. Our people wholeheartedly realize through the daily painful experience of encountering the undeclared imperialist war that the Soviet Union is the honest, unique, and devoted helper, supporter, and friend of our people. Our people have perceived the historic role of the timely military assistance of the Soviet Union, rendered to rebuff the foreign aggression. They are deeply thankful to the Communist Party and the Soviet state for this historic devotion.

One can observe once agan the reelection of this reality in the destiny-making decisions of the April 1985 Grand Assembly, the highest decisionmaking organ in the DRA. It was attended by 1,796 elected representatives of working strata and classes of the country from all provinces, districts, and subdistricts of Afghanistan. This high and historic assembly of the working people of Afghanistan regards the existence of the limited Soviet military contingent under present conditions as an important factor in protecting the integrity and national sovereignty of our beloved country, Afghanistan.

Likewise, the high assembly of frontier tribes, convened in Kabul in September this year, with the participation of 3,700 trustworthy representatives of frontier clans and tribes, aside from other decisions, sincerely welcomed and decisively supported the timely and fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union, which aims to protect the interests of the Afghan people and consolidate the independence and territorial integrity against foreign aggression.

[Question] You say that it is the Army of Afghanistan that fights against the mujahidin, whom you call bandits. But according to the opinion of westerners, most of the Afghan soldiers have escaped and the number in the Army is not more than 50,000. How can you fight the enemies with such a limited force?
[Answer] By saying westerners, if you mean that very lie-spreading imperialist mass media, which plays an active role in the hostile psychological and ideological war as one of the dimensions of the undeclared imperialist war against our country, it should be stated that the spreading of such falsifications through the self-made figures is not the only lie which they resort to against our country and revolution.

Are you not aware of the matter that only the CIA spends around $4 billion per annum for spreading falsifications, forgeries, and concoctions against the forces of peace and progress in the world?

If we judge the forgotten lies of imperialist mass media, so far not only the Armed Forces of Afghanistan should have been totally annihilated by tens of times, but the entire Afghan people also should have fled the country by tens of times. If the news of radio "Voice of America", "BBC", "Deutsche Welle" and so on had been true, you and we would be in hell now, while you have seen for yourself what a gap exists between the lies of western mass media and the real situation of our country. Regarding the Armed Forces of our country, the truth is that our country's orderly and united defense force is becoming further consolidated in quantity and quality as the offspring of the working people join its ranks. This myth about the escape and weakening of the Armed Forces of our country has become totally old. I am sure that you yourself do not believe in it.

Beside the militant Armed Forces of the DRA, the toiling masses of the people, including men and women, by joining the ranks of the frontier militias, groups of defenders of the revolution, the guards of the revolution, brigades of social order, and self-defense groups defend with patriotic devotion their dwellings, land, plants, state departments, public utility establishments, and finally the homeland and revolution as a whole.

Such an active and expanded defensive force, which our country has today, is unprecedented in the course of our contemporary history. It is because of this that the armed counterrevolutionary bands exported from abroad lack the courage and power to fight face-to-face with our Armed Forces.

We are well able to simply suppress the counterrevolutionary bands with the help of our existing military forces. Our great victories in annihilating the bands are the best testimony to this fact. But we are mainly encountering wide-scale imperialist aggression.

[Question] If the Soviet Army is a reserve force in Afghanistan and does not take part in battles, then what do you say about the bombardments of rural areas of Afghanistan by the Soviet Army? Even the Western press says that the Soviets use chemical bombs against rural areas.
[Answer] I stated as regards your previous question and repeat once again that the limited military contingent of the Soviet Union was invited to our country for the reason of foreign aggression and for its rebuff. It helps our people safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of the DRA.

Distortion of the presence and the role of the limited military contingent of the Soviet Union constitutes the main pivot of the venemous and false propaganda of the mass media of imperialist countries. They want to justify this filthy undeclared war against our country.

This has been proved time and again and you should know that the use of chemical arms in Afghanistan is nothing but a despised and deceitful myth. The forgery and distortion experts of Western espionage organisations have endeavored time and again to make the peoples of the world accept such a lie, but fortunately every time they have found failure and disgrace. The research report of the United Nations Organization has proved the baselessness of such claims. I did not expect you to remember this out-dated arm of imperialist propaganda.

You should know that we want our country to flourish, and our proven Soviet friends help us in this regard. A considerable part of our forces is busy reconstructing and developing our country. On the contrary, it is the miscreants and war mercenaries of imperialism who resort with irresponsibility and unprecedented stupidity; to subversion and sabotage; even to the use of poisonous arms, spread of chemical substance at schools, and the poisoning of drinking water. We are sure that the more we make our country flourish, the more we will overcome the problems and misunderstanding. But, the counterrevolution foolishly estimates that by resorting to such destructions they can make the people dissatisfied. However, the people have identified through their daily experience the saboteur and the enemy and reject them.

You should know that the Soviet Army is mainly at the service of peace, progress, and humankind. You should not confuse its nature with the misanthropic character of armies at the service of imperialist monopolies.

These allegations which leak from the arsenal of imperialist propaganda against us and our Soviet friends naturally disgust us.

[Question] You say that a world-wide plot is conducted against your state by America, China, Pakistan, and Iran. In your opinion what kind of plot is it?
[Answer] Imperialist plots and intrigues against our country through the neighboring countries of Pakistan and Iran are not a new phenomenon, but there is a long historical record. Due to the sensitive location of our country in the region, international reaction, imperialism, and hegemonism have never been interested in the existence of an independent and free Afghanistan as an active member of the Nonaligned Movement, and they have always endeavored to draw our ancient and free country into their regional military groupings and to use it in suppressing the national and democratic movement and the forces of peace and social progress.

Here we recall the 1950's. U.S. imperialism, by resorting to different forms of plots and intrigues, strove since the very beginning of that decade until the victory of the April Revolution to make our free and independent country dependent on it and

even tried to draw it into its regional aggressive military pacts. However, the vigilant action by our people foiled all these plots and intrigues of reaction and imperialism at different times.

During the tenure of Mohammad Daud, the plot by U.S. imperialism in collusion with Chinese hegemonism was regulated in such a way that reactionary circles attached to U.S. imperialism in Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey as well as the reactionary Arab countries were to be created against the forces of peace and detente as well as against the national liberation movements.

The April Revolution triumphed, based on the objective conditions of our society and the will of the Afghan people, frustrated the Satanic designs of imperialism, which wanted to change Afghanistan into an antipeace, antifreedom, antidemocratic, and anti-Soviet tool and means in the region.

Few weeks have gone by since the victory of our people without fresh intrigues being heightened against our country. The training, equipping, arming, and exporting of counterrevolutionary bands through the territories of Pakistan, Iran, and China into our country within the framework of an undeclared war, which is broadening with every day, were being organized, and at the same time Hafizollah Amin and his criminal band strove to suppress the democratic elements of the society and the sound and principled forces of our party inside the country, discrediting the party and revolution in society.

All efforts of imperialism, reaction, and hegemonism either inside the country for intensifying terror and suffocation and weakening of social pillars of the revolution or outside the country for cooperating with preparations for invasion through the soil of Pakistan follow only one aim, that is, the dismemberment of Afghanistan or establishment of a more harsh regime in Kabul attached to imperialism and, ultimately the transformation of Afghanistan into an aggressive base for suppressing the national and social liberation movements in the countries of the region and the creation of an antipeace, antiprogress, and anti-Soviet base.

Eventually the uprising of 27 December 1978 triumphed according to the will of the Afghan people, put an end to all these plots and intrigues, and placed the revolution on its principled course. After the revolution was put on its principled course and after the defeat of the dreadful plots of imperialism, hegemonism, and regional reaction against our territorial integrity, independence, and national sovereignty, the enemies of the prosperity and progress of our people became harsher and more bestial than at any other time.

The intensity of hostility and bestiality of reaction and imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism against our country could be seen in the increase of modern weapons to the counterrevolutionary bands and the intensification of the unprecedented psychological war against our homeland and people.

The volume of expenditure by the United States in financing this undeclared war reaches almost $2 billion. This is the best yardstick of the broad conspiracy of reaction and imperialism against our free and independent country.

[Question] You have said that the CIA spy — Amin — was trying to open Afghanistan for the United States to step in and to destroy the independence of Afghanistan. How can a revolutionary person such as Amin can be a spy and a tool in the hand of the United States? Was your difficulty not based on further disagreement inside the PDPA?
[Answer] You should know that the activities of Hafizollah Amin in Afghanistan, contrary to what you say, prove that he was never a revolutionary and never even for a second believed in revolution, party, and homeland. What he and his notorious and criminal band had been accomplishing against our people and homeland exactly corresponded with the line on which U.S. imperialism, with futile endeavors, has been spending millions of dollars. Penetration of the movement by agents is an old technique used for many years by imperialists.

Hafizollah Amin, by joining our party — less than even 1 year had elapsed from its foundation — imposed the first division with his evil plans and he tried to the last moment to create discord and to deepen it to the irreconcilable limit.

It was he and his band who formed a major barrier to the reunification of the PDPA in 1976. The imposition of disunity on the PDPA after the revolution, banishment and imprisonment of the leaders, execution of the best worthy sons of the people and homeland from among the members of the party and thousands of other innocent patriots, as well as putting the country on the brink of disintegration in accordance with the evil plans of U.S. imperialism carried out by Amin and his band are not hidden from anyone's vision.

There is sufficient documentary evidence that Amin and his criminal and treacherous band in collaboration, close contact, visits, and secret sessions with the most barbarious agent of reaction — Gulbuddin Hikmatyar — had a plan to assassinate collectively all political prisoners -- mostly militant members of the PDPA and other compatriots -- that they could arrest.

The tactic of Hafizollah Amin in Afghanistan, like any other such traitor, was to disguise his true face behind revolutionary terms and apparently revolutionary actions in order to deceive the people and to defame the revolutionary thoughts.

Naturally, we were and are opposed to such deceptive, hypocritical, and treacherous tactics. This situation formed a portion, but not a decisive portion, of our internal difficulties in a specific stage of the advancement of our movement in the country.

[Question] Let us accept your reasoning for the arrival of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan as correct; our question is this: As president of Afghanistan are you not afraid that the permanent presence of the Soviet forces on your soil will increase the people's resistance against you and the Soviets?
[Answer] Those who have fought and are fighting internally and at the international level in the interest of the deprived majority really believe — experience has also proved this — that they enjoy the support of the majority of the people and they have no fear; [words indistinct] concerning the policy that they assess it scientifically and with principled attention. This is a fact which is true pertaining to our revolutionary party and government. The

presence of the limited units of the Soviet Union, who are assisting our people in defense of the independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity of our country and to repulse intervention and imperialist aggression, conforms with the wishes and fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of our people. It is the foreign aggression by the reaction, imperialism, and hegemonism which has further intensified resistance and heightened the repulsion of our people, not the selfless and fraternal friendship of the self-sufficient and great people of the Soviet Union with the persecuted and toiling people of our country.

The lofty and goodneighborly relations whose foundation was laid down by the victory of the October [as heard] Revolution and restoration of Afghanistan's independence, have been always a thorn in the side of the enemies of peace and progress in the world.

The great Afghan-Soviet friendship, despite all conspiracies, has successfully stood the test of time and has been transformed into a confident cornerstone of the DRA foreign policy.

We fully belief that the fraternal people of Pakistan and Iran will impose their righteous demand for the normalization of relations with the DRA and for ceasation of aggression — organized in Iranian and Paksitani territories — on the military regime of Pakistan and the reactionary medieval regime of Iran. They also favor efforts to solve the tense situation around Afghanistan created as a result of interference and aggression by reaction and imperialism.

Principled agreements will be reached and under these circumstances the reason for the presence of the limited military units of the Soviet Union will be removed and the false anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet propaganda concerning the permanence of these units in the DRA will be frustrated.

[Question] According to Western estimates there are about 100,000 Soviet troops stationed in Afghanistan; is there still a chance that Afghanistan might remain among the nonaligned countries?
[Answer] The invitation to the Soviet limited units and their presence in the DRA, which has taken place in accordance with accepted international norms and a bilateral agreement, not only has not weakened the DRA stand in the Nonaligned Movement but it has noticeablity further consolidated it because of safeguarding independence and securing the possibility for following a peaceful policy.

The Soviet Union's limited military units are being invited into the DRA merely to repulse foreign aggression and their presence do not and will not pose any danger to any other country. Afghanistan has never before in its history appeared in all areas of international life with complete independence and nondependency as today.

It must be mentioned that today the DRA is not included in any of the military pacts and no foreign military base exists on our territory, and the DRA has not threatened the freedom, independence, or national sovereignty of any country. The DRA, with the legal assistance of its friends, is defending its independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity as desired by our people. Of course, the Nonaligned Movement does not deprive any of its members of this right. Free and independent Afghanistan takes an active part in all sessions and gatherings of this movement and is one of its founding and faithful members; no any other interpretation is valid in this respect.

[Question] Has the effect of the Western economic boycot not brought you closer to the socialist countries?
[Answer] Afghanistan is not the first progressive and independent country against which imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, has used the economic boycott. In the past, other countries who have followed an independent line for national development have encountered such practices by imperialism.

As a landlocked country, the DRA should have enjoyed particular commerical and transit assistance by all developed industrialized countries in accordance with resolutions and UN decisions. Despite this, the imperialist countries are using the rusty weapon of economic boycott against the fundamental socio-economic transformation in our country. They have taken a hostile stand as they wanted to confront the DRA with economic difficulties. The negative effect of boycott has been removed by the fraternal and selfless assistance from the socialist and peaceloving countries, headed by the great USSR.

In following the principles of its foreign policy, the DRA is always interested in broadening its relations with all countries of the world, regardless of their political and social systems.

Our relations with the fraternal socialist countries are based on the infallible revolutionary principles and are under no circumstances or conditions subjected to the [words indistinct] or inclinations of any group or country. Therefore, these relations in no way prevent the establishment and broadening of good and reciprocally advantageous economic, commercial, and cultural relations with other countries and states in the world, including the Western capitalist countries.

[Question] Do you not think that by sending thousands of youth and Afghan students to the Soviet Union, where some of them remain than 5 or 7 years or more, this would not result in a kind of dependency?
[Answer] I do not know how you interpret dependency. To us it means this: economic swallowing up of the developing countries by the imperialist economy in such a way that the capitalist monopolized companies take in their hands the jugular vein of the economy of these countries, and savagely exploit their national wealth. In the cultural field they prevent the creation of national and patriotic experienced cadres in these countries; rich culture is attacked.

Under such circumstances how can we dare to call the education of our youth in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries dependency?

The Soviet Union selflessly and fraternally puts at the disposal of our youth its rich scientific and technical experience and through this channel assists our country in the training of cadres, national and patriotic experts for the rapid socio-economic progress and development of our country. No imperialist country have ever or will manage to produce such an example.

You are familiar with the brain-drain, training of Westernized cadres who have no link with their people or countries which occurs in cultural relations between the imperialist countries and the developing countries.

Do you know that those cadres — lacking any love and interest to their homeland — who had been trained in the West during the past decades, now instead of fruitful productive and social work in their countries wander after unworthy work in the Western markets?

There is no such phenomenon in relations between the Soviet Union and our country. Our youth study hard there and, being trained with patriotic spirit, love the homeland, the toilers, and internationalism. No doubt, they will form the future experts of their independent and revolutionary country.

[Question] You say that those who are fighting against your government are the people of Afghanistan but they are rebels and counterrevolutionaries. However, in view of the statements of some officials of your government, something in the region of 50,000 armed persons are fighting against you. Are these 50,000 persons not being supported by your people?
[Answer] A new political system of the toilers' sovereignty was installed in our country 7 years ago by the victory of the April revolution and day by day it is being consolidated by active participation of the people. We have repeatedly said that the counterrevolutionaries are merely the product of financial and material support by international reaction, imperialism and hegemonism, and in no way do they enjoy the support of the masses of the people.

The armed exported counterrevolutionaries, although they are being increasingly mobilized with modern and destructive weapons, have never had the ability to face up to our heroic armed forces and revolutionary guards. Because of this they embark on planting mines, explosions and assassination of civilians including children and women, and thus they expose their dirty face to our society and people.

If you have read the news about the arrest and crushing of the exported bands, you know about the isolation of the counterrevolutionaries from the people.

In these few days you have spent in our country you have definitely perceived the extent of the hatred of people for the counterrevolutionaries. I assure you resolutely that the bandits being trained in the military camps in Pakistan, Iran,and China will face the same shameful destiny.

The process of surrender of the counterrevolutionary bands and increasing return of our deceived compatriots to their revolutionary homeland are the manifestation of the counterrevolutionary isolation, increasing consolidation of the social pillars of the revolution, and righteousness of the policy of the revolutionary sovereignty in the country.

[Question] However, the news reaching the West and your enemy's films indicate that resistance has been eliminated; do you think that you will defeat them?

[Answer] It is obvious who the organizers and scenarists of the news reaching the West are, who feeds them, and why they are embarking on such activities. We have never said that the counterrevolutionaries are being totally eliminated. In practice we witness that the imperialist circles, in particular U.S. imperialism, with all their might are striving to keep a fire under the undeclared war against our country. We have said it before and once again, on the basis of undeniable evidence, I declare that our revolution has reached that high stage of effectiveness in political life which can force the counterrevolutionaries to seclude themselves completely and to resort to thievery and local and minor destruction.

The enemy films you have mentioned do not pay attention to the unlimited ocean of the toiling and progress-loving masses of our country; they present to your people a tale of dirty counterrevolutionary sewage.

[Question] Of course the western powers are interfering in the affairs of Afghanistan but are the Chinese, American, or Pakistani troops not directly interfering?
[Answer] In replying to your previous questions I mentioned clearly from where and by which forces interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is being organized.

U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism, and Pakistani reaction are trying to disguise their interference and undeniable aggression against the DRA by arguing that their military forces are not taking part directly in the undeclared war against the homeland and our revolution.

According to the accepted international definition of aggression, the active participation of imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialism, hegemonism, and reaction in the training, mobilization, arming, and export of the subversive counterrevolutionary bands into our country which take place under direct command of Washington is regarded as blatant aggression against our country.

The counterrevolutionary bands stationed in Pakistan are a tool in the hands of imperialism and international reaction and are at this very moment being dispatched to destroy the gains of the glorious April Revolution. Not too far in the future they may be given the task of embarking on destruction, murder, and plunder in other corners of our region against the national emancipating movements.

Facts show that the subversive Afghan counterrevolutionary bands are not only being trained in Pakistan, Iran and China by U.S., British, Egyptian, Chinese and Pakistani military instructors, but their chieftains are also receiving training in the United States itself.

At the same time, together with the crushed and captured counterrevolutionary bands, tens of military instructors, officers, and spies belonging to the imperialist countries, Arab reaction, Iran and Pakistan were also being captured or crushed by our vigilant security forces. All these facts expose the dimension of interference by the countries that you have named.

This war is not a war of Afghans against Afghans but the war of reaction and imperialism against our revolution, homeland,and people. The policy and plan of this war are being designed in Washington, Beijing, Islamabad, etc., and put into action by the mercenary fighters. The Afghan counterrevolutionaries are moving along the line of this counterrevolutionary and anti-Afghan policy of imperialism, reaction, and hegemonism. Only with difficulty can one separate, even in terms of general policy outlines, the policy of reaction, imperialism and hegemonism from that of these counterrevolutionaries.

[Question] Undoubtedly Afghanistan, with an incongruous tribal-feudal order, is in need of fundamental reform and even revolution. However, is the policy that you are pursuing sound?
[Answer] The soundness of every policy could be assessed through its social results and outcomes. The events of the past years clearly show that despite the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism against our homeland and revolution, we have succeeded in great achievements in various spheres in the life of our society. The social pillars of the revolution are increasingly expanding daily and socioeconomic progress in our country is completely (?satisfactory). We act in accordance with tested principles of scientifically leading the society towards the elimination of backwardness and the creation of a new and progressive society. However, at the same time, we consider the peculiarities of our society in connection with all class, national, and historical dimensions. We know very well and believe that the people constitute the main factor of the final victory of every revolution. And therefore we pay maximum attention to the characteristics of the etiquettes, traditions, and the level of the political and cultural awareness of the people of our country. We learn from the experience of the masses and utilize them in advancing our work. We believe that this is the most sound, the most principled and most objective policy.

[Question] What are the prospects of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan through the UN representative in Geneva?
[Answer] I explained in detail the answer to this question in an interview a few days ago with the editor of the daily *THE MUSLIM* of Pakistan. I stated then that the talks have now reached a critical and complicated phase. In connection with the solution of the situation around Afghanistan in accordance with the will of our people, we have always pointed out that only through direct talks can mutually satisfactory results be achieved. We have gone our half way towards expressing readiness for any kind of talks and we expect the Iranian and Pakistani sides, too, to display good will in this regard in accordance with the demands and will of their people and use sound judgement in solving the disputed questions between the sides.

Facts have shown that whenever the military regime of Pakistan, under the pressure of public opinion of the people of that country, has shown the slightest flexibility towards preparedness for direct talks, the United States and reaction of the region have, by exerting pressure on Pakistan, prevented it.

[Question] Hundreds of thousands of Afghan fugitives live in Pakistan. A part of these fugitives, whom you call rebels, return from Pakistani soil to Afghanistan and fight against your forces. What should Pakistan do in order to come to an agreement with you so that peace could be established?

[Answer] There is no doubt that, due to various reasons, a number of our compatriots have left the country and are temporarily living in neighboring countries. We never consider all of them rebels or counterrevolutionaries. In this regard, we have specific analysis and assessment. This is the lie-manufacturing propaganda machinery of imperialism which tries to count all those who have left the country for various reasons, including the deceived, ie, the majority of them, as the enemies of revolution.

A considerable part of our compatriots, due to the difficult living conditions under the rule of the oppressive and antipopular regimes of the past, had gone to the countries of the region and the Gulf in order to find work. As a result of the criminal and crushing Khalqi policy at the time of Hafizollah Amin and his band, too, a number of our compatriots left the country and resided in neighboring countries. Therefore, various groups include the Afghans living abroad who have left the country due to diverse reasons. In addition, the nomads, too, who have been involuntarily kept in Pakistan, should not be forgotten.

In connection with the figure of the Afghan refugees and fugitives, the lie-manufacturing imperialist mass media have consistently engaged in distorting facts and are desparately trying to greatly exaggerate figures in this regard. By making use of these harmful means, the ruling reactionary circles in Iran and Pakistan and also the shameless ringleaders of the servant counterrevolutionary bands on the one hand justify their hostility in deceiving our compatriots and confusing world public opinion regarding our revolution, and on the other hand exploit it as a great beneficial source of attracting financial help from reactionary and imperialist countries.

In connection with the matter as to what the militarist Government of Pakistan should do so peace in the region would be established, it should be stated that the militarist Government of Pakistan ought to, in line with the demands and will of the people of Pakistan, put an end to the use of its territory as a springboard for aggression by reaction and imperialism against our free and independent country; put an end to the training, arming, and sending of counterrevolution. Credible international guarantees should also be preventing the recurrance of these interventions and aggressions from the territories of Pakistan and Iran.

[Question] Foreign observers believe that in the past a government like yours has never ruled in Afghanistan. However, some Afghans do not accept this...
[Answer] We know that in the West, too, realistic observers could be found who, despite the efforts of mass media linked with imperialism towards distorting truth about our country, have found the truth of our revolution and our revolutionary state. In answering the second part of your question, I should say that if Western observers can find that a state of this quality is unprecedented in Afghanistan, don't you think the people of Afghanistan can also realize this fact? There is no doubt that the people of Afghanistan, before every other fact in the world, have felt in their flesh and bones this truth and this is openly reflected in their resolute defense of revolutionary gains. In our society, only a handful of individuals who have lost their privileges as a result of the victory of the April Revolution do not want to accept this fact. This matter is inherent in the natural character of every

dying phenomenon.

[Question] It can be seen that your state is more advanced among the youths. Great difference can be seen between the youths and elders. For example, old women cover themselves, whereas girls and young women are very modern.
It can be seen that you do not hope to change the age. Have you pinned your hopes on the young generation, in particular on those who are trained in the Soviet Union?
[Answer] Contrary to what you may imagine, there is no difference like the Great Wall of China between young and old in economic, social,and cultural affairs of the country. This judgment that the old are less interested in the transformation of their difficult conditions and the creation of revolutionary changes and social progress does not have an objective foundation. Witness to the deep penetration of our policy among this generation is the expansion and consolidation of the NFF, [National Fatherland Front] the successful convocation of the supreme council and the high council of the border tribes of the DRA, in which thousands of representatives of our people took part, the majority of whom, due to the peculiarities of our society, were old people. Also in the course of elections to the local organs of state power and administration in the country's localities we observe the fact that the older generation of our country is ready to lend its rich experiences to the service of the revolution and engage in bringing up the new generation with a patriotic spirit and love for work. Our youth are also ready to trust in the richness of the experience of the old. Contrary to the propagandists and Afghanologists of the West, we do not have a family crisis and are not observing the deterioration of families. Our fervent revolutionary youths respect their fathers and mothers and learn from them. The process of the consolidation of the social pillars of our revolution is continuing in an orderly, logical and comprehensive manner.

With regard to the last part of your question, it should be stated that the attainment of education and educational, technical,and professional skills by our youths in the fraternal and friendly Soviet Union is not only not against our patriotic national traditions, but is complemenatry to their training in an internationalist spirit. The fact that after the victory of the April Revolution our youths, utilizing the educational, scientific, and technical assistance of the friendly Soviet Union, are engaged in learning there and their assistance for our youths have deep historical roots and have been sincerely realized in practice from the very beginning of friendly relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

[Question] In order to attract people who believe in the religion of Islam you even go to the mosque. Is this a tactic for attracting conservative religious elements? Or is it that the party has learned from its mistakes in the time of Amin?
[Answer] The sincere treatment and approach of the PDPA in relation to the beliefs of our people have been proved from the very beginning of its formation some 21 years ago. We respect the beliefs of the people and have seriously observed them. It was in following this policy that after the victory of the April Revolution and its new development stage the laws of the DRA have guaranteed the observance of and respect for the sacred religion of Islam. Those who show disrespect for religious leaders, ulema, and the religion of Islam are in fact violating the law.

In this way our sincere treatment of the people's beliefs has no tactical aspect and it enjoys principled roots and firm pillars. The broadening and consolidation of our link with the people, be it in the mosques and sacred places, or be it in factories, places of work, agricultural fields and others, emanate from the popular character of our party, the PDPA, and not transient tactics.

The approach of the criminal Amin band toward the beliefs of the people was not solely a great mistake, but we consider it a part of the broad conspiracy of reaction and imperialism which had been imposed against the vital interests of our people.

[Question] Is there a possibility of a compromise between your ideology and the very strong and rigid traditional prejudices of your society?
[Answer] Our ideology is the ideology of the working class inspired by the very ancient demands of the broad masses of the people and the source of aspiration and leading energy of the revolutionaries of our country for the construction of a new society based on true social justice. Historical experience has shown that it is exactly on the basis of this ideology that peoples and toilers can be liberated from the rule of capital, oppression, and cruelties against which mankind has struggled during all of its history. Our party was founded on the basis of this ideology and from that very beginning, that is almost 21 years, the party has utilized the ideology as the torch in its struggles for the salvation of the people. Historical experiences in our country and other progressive countries of the world endorse the fact that the ideology of the working class, which is itself the reflection of the aspirations of the toiling peoples of the world, has never been in contradiction with the demands, interests, and [word indistinct] of the peoples. It has always respected the interests of the people.

The victory of the national democratic April Revolution with the support of the absolute majority of the people in the light of this ideology and the respect of the revolutionary rule for religions, traditions, and customs of our people is by itself the best manifestation of the link of our ideology, ie. the ideology of the working class with the free and historical, laudable, proud traditions of our people. It is natural that the structure of the old class society, the customary centuries-old backwardness, propaganda and the extreme deviationst and reactionary thinking of the past regimes and prejudices steming from them will cause troubles for a long period, but the most important thing is that, as a whole, the revolutionary path which has been chosen in our society is in complete accord with the ancient interests and fundamental demands of the absolute majority of our people. And as a result, complete accord exists between the liberating thought and the demands and opinions of our people.

[Question] How do you see the future of Afghanistan?
[Answer] Revolution is continuing in our country and as a result the future is also clear. As a whole, there are no dark or confused points in the future of our country. In the manner with which the PDPA, comprehensively assessing the social conditions of the country some 21 years ago, was able as a party of revolutionary thought and action to forecast in its aims that only by bringing to victory a national democratic antifeudal and anti-imperialist revolution could a way for social progress and true national freedom in the country be opened, in this same manner it has kept in its aims the methods of reaching the last aim of this path of

development, which is the building of a society free from the exploitation of man by man.

In the way our party successfully carried out one of the major tasks of its charter in connection with the assumption of political power with the bringing to victory of the April national democratic revolution, in this manner it will advance towards its final aim consistently and without deviation, without overlooking the necessary phases of the evolution of society, without haste, and without the movement lagging behind. Therefore, relying on the scientifically arranged and logical program of the PDPA, relying on the energy and will of the toiling people and relying on our overwhelming natural resources and on the support of our international friends, it can be stated with complete confidence that the future of Afghanistan will be a glittering future, a future based on true social progress and justice, and finally the future of a new society free of the exploitation of man by man where poverty, misfortune, illiteracy, unemployment, disease, ignorance, and national and social oppression do not exist, and such a new society will be maintained on the foundation of the well-being of the people.

FRG's DER SPIEGEL Interviews Babrak Karmal

DW051141 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 4 Nov 85 pp 184-185

[Interview with Afghan President Babrak Karmal by SPIEGEL associate Mostafa Danesh in Kabul; no date given]

[Text] *SPIEGEL*: Mr President: German-Afghan relations have traditionally been good. You yourself have visited the German Amani School in Kabul. Now, however, not only are relations not good anymore, but your government even accuses FRG diplomats of espionage. What has happened?
Karmal: Relations between the peoples of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the FRG are, as before, good. Unfortunately, however, we are in possession of documents clearly showing that the rulers of the FRG interefere massively in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

SPIEGEL: How?
Karmal: In past years, deputies of the FRG Bundestag and Bundeswehr members have illegally infiltrated Afghanistan, accompanied by armed counterrevolutionary gangs, in flagrant violation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's laws and the norms of international law. Such names as Juergen Todenhoefer or Erik Kothny, an officer of the Bundeswehr, are certainly not unknown to you. So-called doctors and journalists from the FRG commit sabotage and terrorist acts against our people, and they spy on Afghanistan.

SPIEGEL: You cannot hold the Federal Government responsible for such activities.

Karmal: One cannot call a Bundestag deputy a private person when he violates the laws of another country and international norms. The Federal Government has neither called such a person to answer, nor condemned such illegal activities. Think for just a second of how the Federal Government would react were a foreign country to infiltrate elements to commit sabotage and espionage in the FRG. FRG media also cooperate closely with Afghan gangs.

SPIEGEL: Which ones?
Karmal: Recently, a radio station calling itself "Voice of Free Afghanistan" has been disseminating slander from Munich against our country. Such a psychological war against us, financed by the CIA, is tolerated by the German Government. In addition, during his last visit to Pakistan Chancellor Kohl also visited the gangs' training camps, not only making provocative statements against our country, but promising the gangs support worth DM16 million. Moreover, since 1979 counterrevolutionary elements have attacked the Bonn Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan three times, stealing documents and money and injuring embassy members. The Federal Government does not even fulfill its duty to safeguard our diplomatic representation.

SPIEGEL: You accuse the FRG Embassy in Kabul of espionage?
Karmal: We have reliable evidence of the espionage activity of an embassy member.

SPIEGEL: Afghanistan's relations with other countries are impaired by the presence of Soviet troops in your country. The Soviet soldiers have been there for 6 years now. How long are they going to stay?
Karmal: The dispatch of a limited Soviet troop contingent was on the basis of a request for help by the legal Afghan Government against the interference and aggression of foreign powers and reactionary circles in the region. That aggression is now being intensified. As soon as it ends and international guarantees are available that it will not be repeated, the Government of Afghanistan will negotiate with the Soviet Union on the return of the contingents to their homeland.

SPIEGEL: Are you not at all irritated that the majority of Afghans are against the presence of Soviet troops?
Karmal: You intentionally call people Afghan's who are from the exploiting class that was overthrown by the revolution, that has lost its feudal privileges, that serves the imperialist forces as mercenaries, and that attack us from Iran and Pakistan. Big landowners who have exploited the peasants for centuries and who could decide on life or death for their serfs will never back a revolution endangering their interests. The people, however, know very well that social and economic changes are possible only if aggression from outside is discontinued.

SPIEGEL: Do you mean to dispute the very existence of Afghan resistance to the Soviets?
Karmal: Do not confuse the people of Afghanistan with a tiny minority of gangs. That minority opposes social justice and equal rights for men and women. They want to continue to keep the people in poverty and ignorance in order to continue exploiting them. The overwhelming majority of the people is on our side, as demonstrated by the rallies of representatives of all classes and of almost 4,000 tribal leaders in Kabul recently.

SPIEGEL: The mujahidin see it exactly the opposite. They say that even your army is running away from you.

Karmal: If such denunciations, spread by Western radios such as the Voice of America, BBC, and Deutsche Welle, were true, not only would the Afghan Army have been destroyed 10 times over, but the population of Afghanistan would have fled the country 10 times over.

SPIEGEL: It is a fact that 100,000 Soviet soldiers are in Afghanistan, but that no American, Chinese, or Pakistani soldiers fight on the other side.
Karmal: Our enemies try to conceal their aggression by pretending not to be directly involved in the undeclared war. However, the United States alone has so far given the counterrevolutionary gangs more than $2 billion. The training, armament, and dispatching of the gangs to Afghanistan is organized under the direct command of Washington. Moreover, we have arrested many officers and agents from Arab countries, Iran, and Pakistan, who have infiltrated Afghanistan, which shows the actual dimension of foreign interference.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, thousands of young Afghans are being sent to the Soviet Union to be trained there. Does that one-sided orientation not bring you into indissoluble dependence?
Karmal: For us dependence means the merger of the economies of developing countries and the imperialist economy. Capitalist monopolies control the vital economic veins of developing countries, thus exploiting the resources of those countries. They prevent the development of national experts. The Soviet Union, however, makes its great scientific and technical experience available to our students, thus supporting the speedy economic and social development of our coutnry.

SPIEGEL: Your policy seems to be more successful among youth than among the older generation. Did you write it off as hopeless?

Karmal: In our policy, we have not drawn a Chinese Wall between the older and the younger generation. Some 100,000 members of the National Patriotic Front are older people. The assembly of tribal leaders from border areas consisted of virtually only older people.

SPIEGEL: However, it cannot be denied that the resistance of your opponents is unbroken.

Karmal: We have never maintained that counterrevolution has been fully destroyed. However, I assure you that our revolution is anchored firmly enough to isolate the counterrevolution and to deal fatal blows to it. Our successes are obvious to anybody.

SPIEGEL: Which ones, for example?

Karmal: We implemented most of the land reform. Many hundreds of thousands have learned to read and write. We have doubled the salaries of workers and we have built thousands of apartments for them. The situation of women has basically improved. We have achieved great progress in the field of health services. At the same time, however, in all political measures, we respect the customs and habits of our people.

SPIEGEL: You yourself, for example, go to the mosque to pray. Is that a tactic to appease the conservative religious circles of the peoples?
Karmal: We respect the religious feelings and habits of our people. The April Revolution has guaranteed respect for Islam.

SPIEGEL: Is compromise between your ideology and firm traditions possible at all?
Karmal: Our ideology is that of the worker class, to building a new society based on social justice. That ideology does not at all contradict the habits and traditions of our people.

Assam Elections To Take Place on 16 December

BK061249 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Elections will be held in Assam on the 16th of next month to the 126-member State Assembly and for 14 seats in the Lok Sabha. This was announced by the chief election commissioner, Mr R.K. Trivedi, in New Delhi today soon after the high-level discussions with senior officials of Assam and the center. A notification will be issued on the 15th of this month, and the filing of nominations will begin. The last date will be the 22nd. Scrutiny of nominations will take place the following day, and the last date for withdrawal will be the 25th of this month.

Mr Trivedi also announced the decision to extend the scheme of districtwide election broadcast by recognized political parties to Assam.

Mr Trivedi said the final rolls are being published tomorrow in all the 126 assembly constituencies. The intensive revision of electoral rolls in Assam, which began on November last year, came to an end today with the disposal of all claims and objections.

Student Organization Demands Release of Sikhs

BK011630 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] The Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temples Management] Committee [SGPC] has strongly criticized yesterday's incidents in which some youths damaged parts of the Akal Takht [highest Sikh temple]. A spokesman of the SGPC said in a statement that this amounted to desecration of the holy place.

Meanwhile, members of the All India Sikh Students Federation today handed over a memorandum to the Punjab health minister, Mr Basant Singh Khalsa, demanding among other things the release of Sikh detainees.

Haryana Speaker To Meet Protesting Legislators

BK010413 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] The Haryana Vidhan Sabha [Legislative Assembly] speaker, Mr Tara Singh, has again written to the Lok Dal MLA's [members of the Legislative Assembly] to appear before him individually between the 4th and the 8th of this month in connection with their resignations submitted to him on the 30th of August. The MLA's had resigned in protest against what they called injustice done to Haryana's interest in the Punjab accord.

Unidentified Assailants Kill Punjab Policemen

BK061557 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] According to agency reports, a police head constable was shot dead and a constable injured by two unidentified persons in the office of the assistant commissioner of excise in Amritsar today. The police said the head constable was on duty and sitting in the office when the assailants, armed with revolvers, entered the office and shot them.

Madras Atomic Plant Unit To Be Closed for 1 Month

BK020912 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] The 235-megawatt first unit of the Madras atomic power plant at Kalpakkam is to be taken off the grid from tomorrow for a month. This is to rectify the problems in its turbogenerator. According to the project director, Dr K.S.M. Murthy, (?the unit) has generated over 2,100 million units since it became commercially operational in January last year.

INDIAN EXPRESS Writes on Gandhi's Visit to Moscow

BK061503 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 29 Oct 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Useful Detour"]

[Text] The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Moscow on his way back from New York (via The Hague) was a major surprise of his 14-day overseas tour. Mr Gandhi, however, told newsmen at Delhi airport that the visit was "pre-planned." If so, it certainly was not published in the official itinerary of his tour which took him to London, Nassau, Havana, New York and the Netherlands. Nor did the press party accompanying him know of the visit until after they had boarded the plane at The Hague for what they thought was the return flight to Delhi. Whether Mr Gandhi decided to go to the Soviet capital at the last minute, as one report from The Hague said, or while in New York, where he cut short his visit by two days, is not clear. But it did cause considerable speculation in both the media and in diplomatic circles, especially since the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, too, left Sofia, where he was attending a Warsaw Pact meeting, earlier than scheduled, to be in Moscow for Mr Gandhi's visit. It may be some time before speculation about the visit subsides. In any event, Mr Gandhi is probably the only head of Government to have met the chief executives of the two superpowers twice in less than six months.

Surprise or not, the visit underlines the close relations between India and the Soviet Union, and particularly the personal rapport that the two leaders have evidently established. It also perhaps reflects the fact that India and the Soviet Union have certain common perceptions and aspirations in regard to international problems generally, and especially in respect of the grave danger posed by the nuclear arms race and the urgency of halting it as a matter of top priority. Mr Gandhi must, no doubt, have acquainted Mr Gorbachev with the proceedings and conclusions of the Commonwealth summit, his talks with Mr Reagan and other Western leaders and, among other issues, India's mounting concern about Pakistan's nuclear intentions. On the latter, Mr Gandhi found the Soviet Union "very understanding," as against a somewhat less assuring response from Mr Reagan. Mr Gandhi has denied carrying any message but in a less formal sense may have passed on some informal signals prior to the superpowers' summit in Geneva next month. Mr Gandhi has described Moscow's latest offer of a 50 percent cut in nuclear arms as a major

advance. The U.S. may also want to discuss Afghanistan and the four other global "trouble spots" Mr Reagan has listed at the Geneva summit, rather than concentrate on what Mr Gandhi has rightly described as the "prime issue" of disarmament. As Mr Gandhi said, the world must hope that the Geneva meeting will yield a positive result. Returning via Moscow to further that cause in whatsoever way would have been a useful detour in any circumstances.

Gandhi Urged To Respond to Pakistan's Overtures
BK061520 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
31 Oct 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Look Inwards"]

[Text] The six-nation appeal to the superpowers to produce positive results at their summit meeting in Geneva next month echoes the hopes and aspirations of all mankind. Signed by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, President Miguel de La Madrid of Mexico, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou of Greece, President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, and Prime Minister Olaf Palme of Sweden, the message calls upon Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachev seriously to consider both the recent proposals for deep cuts in nuclear arsenals and effective measures for prevention of an arms race in space so as "to reach conclusions we expect you to reach at your meeting." Recalling the Delhi Declaration of last January, which called for a complete halt in the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons, the six leaders have urged Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachev to start with an agreement to suspend nuclear tests for 12 months, adding that "such a suspension could be extended or made permanent." They have also offered to assist in arranging "third party" verification if the two sides find it difficult to do so on their own. This is evidently a new element in the six leaders' 30-month-old joint endeavour in favour of disarmament and peace.

Commendable as is the latest appeal, the concern underlying these efforts ought also to be reflected in lesser but similar areas of bilateral tension, notably the Indian sub-continent which, unfortunately, seems locked in a pre-bomb confrontation which could get out of hand and end up in a regional nuclear arms race. Mr Gandhi's oft-repeated concern over Pakistan's alleged nuclear plans and intentions may be understandable in view of the alleged content of the programme and the manner of its development; not so his totally negative response to various proposals, including one favouring mutual inspections, that have emanated from Islambad in this regard. Particularly incomprehensible is New Delhi's rejection of any dialogue whatsoever with Pakistan and unwillingness to accept any assurance from that country. This flies in the face of the basic tenets of India's foreign policy and of non-alignment and runs counter to the advice Mr Gandhi and other members of the six-nation appeal have proposed to the superpowers to shed mistrust. If New Delhi has any better suggestion to offer to Pakistan, it should come out with it, rather than merely urge Washington to do something about it — which again goes against the very principle of scrupulous bilateralism that this country has been urging on Pakistan. Meanwhile, India has shelved further discussion on its own proposal for a treaty of friendship and cooperation in response to Pakistan's plea for a more limited no-war pact. The danger of Mr Gandhi's constant iteration of an imminent nuclear threat from Pakistan is that an environment is rapidly being created in the country in which the hawks favouring exercise of the nuclear option will find powerful justification for their stance. It may then be too late to backtrack, with reactions in Pakistan fuelling hysteria here. The "Anandpurisation" of the nuclear issue reduces the many positive aspects and thrusts of Mr Gandhi's first year in office to nonsense. The six-nation nuclear appeal has relevance to India. Let its wisdom be heeded at home.

HINDUSTAN TIMES Hails Growing Relations With U.S.
BK011123 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English

20 Oct 85 p 9

[Editorial: "Indo-U.S. Ties: Promising Progress"]

[Text] Recent news reports about U.S. acquiescence in apartheid and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's statements deploring lack of firm American action vis-a-vis Pakistan's bid to manufacture an Islamic bomb, might give an impression that Indo-U.S. relations are once again on a down swing.

Nothing can be farther from the truth. Economic relations between India and the United States are booming and that, in fact, can be the basis for increased political understanding. After all, in today's economically interdependent world, economic considerations have a greater input into political policy making than almost any other factor.

It would indeed be surprising if India and the United States did not have their political differences. The two are situated at opposite ends of the world which, in itself, would make for different perceptions. One is a highly developed super power; the other a developing nation on the move towards modernity. Their economic disparities also contribute to differing perspectives of world events and national interest.

The relations between the two countries have been confounded by a tendency on the part of both to look at each other through the spectacles of the past. India is still seen by many Americans as a land of maharajas, snake charmers and the Taj Mahal. The United States, in turn, is seen in India as a nation of the automobile and fast food centres, with the government prone to gunboat diplomacy. This might have been a true depiction at one time, but the times have long changed.

It was Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., who said that "no paradox is more persistent than the historic tension in the American soil between an addiction to experiment and a susceptibility to ideology."

The United States currently is anxious to experiment with a closer relationship with India, which is now seen as a promising and expanding market and a budding power that will soon have considerable clout in world affairs. At the same time, the U.S. Administration is bound down by the legacy of its cold war perception of a Soviet Union bending all its energies to undermining the free world.

It is fortunate that the yen to experiment is now on the ascendancy, and despite India's closeness with the Soviet Union, Washington has demonstrated a willingness to collaborate to a greater extent with India in the economic, scientific and defence fields.

George Washington had stated, as his foreign policy, that no nation should be trusted more than its idea of its own national interest. That, of course, is a basic verity, but it must be remembered that Washington made his statement at a time when the United States had just gained its independence and was unsure of its exact role in the international arena.

The global order has since altered dramatically and interdependence is now a vital fact of life. The current ethos is one of trust, albeit "cautious" trust; the latter, because there are some countries which have opted to change the rules of the game and go beyond the established order, without caring for the consequences on the global regimen.

With all that, it is heartening that 65 cases of U.S. technology transfer to India have gone through since the prime minister's visit to Washington in June. India's projected march to the 21st century will have to be fuelled by modern technology, and in the ultimate analysis, it is this U.S. contribution that will have a lasting effect on bilateral relations.

PATRIOT Examines PRC Stand on Border Dispute

BK041131 Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Beyond the Package"]

[Text] The meeting between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Mr Zhao Ziyang of China in New York gives the impression that the talks on the border issue (which are to be resumed in the first week of November) are to receive a fillip with the injection of some political will from both sides. If that was all that was required to end a long-standing, bitter dispute then the issue could have been resolved not long after Mrs Indira Gandhi initiated the dialogue for normalisation of relations between the two countries. The fact is that the border talks have made little progress because the Chinese package offer of relinquishing its claim in the east in return for similar Indian abstention in the strategic Karakoram sector has created a heads you lose, tails I win kind of situation. Even during the Rajiv-Zhao talks, the reference to the dispute as being a "leftover of history" is a reiteration of the Chinese position that British intervention disrupted thousands of years of Chinese suzerainty over a region which Ming Dynasty maps include as the whole of Aksai Chin in the west, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh, not to mention Burma and South-east Asia. This is an obstacle no amount of political will in India can surmount however much the Government is keen on improving relations with China.

The other stumbling block is the Chinese insistence, within the package deal proposal, of retaining control of territory captured in 1962 in Aksai Chin which straddles the strategic sector between Tibet, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. It is territory secured by the use of force and the package deal is designed to protect that illegal acquisition — a presentation of a fait accompli to India. The Chinese will have to demonstrate some political will in this sector if the log-jam is to be cleared during the next round of talks in New Delhi in the first week of November. The Karakoram Highway connecting China with Pakistan traverses this sector through Indian territory illegally occupied by the latter. Around this arrangement revolves China's strategic aim of expanding its influence into the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean littoral for the furtherance of which Beijing is pampering Islamabad with conventional weaponry and nuclear know-how — a circumstance that has repercussions directly on Indian security.

The promise of the Rajiv-Zhao meeting can best be realised through some settlement in this sector. Whether it will be realised is to be seen. Nevertheless the meeting has produced a perceptible forward movement — the Chinese have conceded that normalisation cannot occur without a settlement of the boundary dispute and India appears willing to meet China halfway if it modifies the package deal.

Paper Writes on Sharing of Ganges With Bangladesh

BK311652 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 23 Oct 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Another Try"]

[Text] Further to recent exchanges between the Indian and Bangladesh Governments, Mr Rajiv Gandhi and President Ershad have come to an understanding at Nassau, where both were attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference, on how to proceed towards resolution of the question of sharing the waters of the eastern rivers. Pending agreement on long-term augmentation of the lean season flows of the Ganga below Farakka, the two sides have from time to time worked out summer schedules for water sharing or have organised this on an ad hoc basis. At Nassau, the president and prime minister decided to renew the 1982 memorandum of understanding regarding interim water sharing for a period of three years. But going beyond this, ministers of the two countries are to meet shortly to determine terms of reference for a joint study on available water resources with a view to identifying alternatives for long-term augmentation of Ganga flows below Farakka. The joint study is to be completed within a year with a review of progress after six months from the commencement of the exercise. Thereafter a summit meeting is programmed to take firm decisions and consider the steps that must be taken to implement the accord.

Earlier discussions have been deadlocked. Bangladesh has favoured a joint approach by both sides to Nepal for the construction of monsoon storages on the Ganga system in the Himalayan kingdom. India has preferred a bilateral approach and, in view of its own requirements for water within the Ganga basin, has suggested storing the monsoon flows of the Brahmaputra in Arunachal and diverting this to the Ganga above Farakka through a link canal. Bangladesh has, however, strong reservations on this alternative on technical and other grounds. Both sides are now inclined to relent on their earlier rigid stands and if the two proposals are examined objectively the outlines of an

agreed package might emerge. Other options may also be examined, including the possibility of tapping deep aquifers. Earlier discussions have also tended to be rather narrowly focussed and have ignored various other trade-offs which could be of very considerable mutual benefit. These would include power generation flood control, inland navigation, transit and so on. Inclusion of these in a large package would allow for give and take so that what any one side thinks it might lose on the swings it could gain on the roundabouts. Hopefully, the new approach will be more broad-based, pragmatic and urgent than before.

INDIAN EXPRESS Looks at Nuclear Power Developments

BK061516 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 31 Oct 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Kudos for Kalpakkam"]

[Text] In a significant development India clinched a notable seventh rank internationally when the 14 megawatt fast breeder test reactor (FBTR) at Kalpakkam near Madras went critical on October 18. By the year 2000 the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) wants to produce 10,000 megawatts of electricity, which would be a tenth of India's power needs at the time. To the nuclear power plants currently on stream in Tarapur, Kota and Kalpakkam or coming up at Narora (Uttar Pradesh) and Kakrapar (Gujarat), the DAE plans to add 22 more conventional reactors, of which 12 will be of the standardised 235 megawatt capacity and 10 of 500 megawatt capacity. Another DAE target is to install a 500 megawatt reactor of the fast breeder kind by the year 2000. The scientists at the Kalpakkam reactor research centre (RRC) who were responsible for developing the FBTR from a basic French design have rightly earned kudos. Only the U.S., USSR, France, the UK, West Germany and Japan have preceded India. The use of plutonium-rich uranium-carbide fuel in Kalpakkam's FBTR is, however, a unique achievement for which the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre can take credit.

The breeder-reactor is of crucial significance because it allows the use of thorium, with which India is well-endowed. By about 2025 India's limited supplies of natural uranium will be used up. Well before then, however, the country's nuclear stations could be plugged into the thorium cycle. These goals are impressive and probably necessary but the DAE and the nation as a whole must also give continuing and adequate attention to the questions of location, safety and waste management. There has been a measure of unease in Gujarat about the Kakrapar location and some Karnataka environmentalists appear to be unhappy about the selection of the Kaiga site in North Kanara. Dr M.R. Srinivasan, Chairman of the Nuclear Power Board, is no doubt right when he says that a country wanting a zero risk situation will achieve nothing. But it would not be fair to decide or dismiss those stressing questions of safety and waste disposal. The recent Bangalore meet where nuclear scientists and officials met with environmentalists was a sensible step even if it did not immediately produce a consensus.

Ziaul Haq Leaves Saudi Arabia for Qatar

GF061004 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Medina, 6 Nov (SPA) — His Excellency Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Medina today for Doha after concluding a visit to the kingdom, during which he made a short pilgrimage to the prophet's mosque.

President, Prime Minister Greet Soviet Counterparts

BK070237 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo have greeted Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Nikolay Ryzhkov, the chairman of the Council of Ministers, on the 68th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Junejo To Pay Official Visit to PRC 17 Nov

BK061636 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] It has been officially anncunced that Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo will leave for China on 17 November for a week-long visit at the invitation of Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang.

Junejo will hold talks with Premier Zhao Ziyang in Beijing and meet with other Chinese leaders to exchange views. After his Beijing visit, he will leave for Shanghai and (?Guangdong). On this visit, the prime minister will have an opportunity to confirm the warm, deep friendship and close cooperation that have been the special feature of Paksitan and China's friendship.

Noorani Terms Gandhi Statements 'Baseless'

BK061625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani has said allegations against Pakistan by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in interviews given to various U.S. magazines and newspapers are totally baseless and false. Speaking on three identical adjournment motions in the National Assembly in Islamabad this evening, he said the India Government has not been able to produce any concrete evidence to support its allegation against Pakistan regarding assistance to Sikh extremists. He said that India has achieved an extensive nuclear capability, free from international safeguards, under the smoke screen of propaganda statements in connection with Pakistan's nuclear program. It has stockpiled enough plutonium to be able to build atomic weapons. It also conducted a nuclear explosion in May 1974. He said that Pakistan, on the contrary, has forwarded various proposals to India to keep South Asia free from nuclear weapons and has also proposed an agreement on the nonacquisition and nonmanufacture of atomic weapons.

Mr Zain Noorani said the United States has also told India to hold talks with Pakistan to keep South Asia free from atomic weapons. But it is regrettable that India has rejected it. He said an (?impartial) observer fully understands the fact that the responsibility of nuclear weapons proliferation in South Asia lies with India and not with Pakistan.

The minister of state for foreign affairs presented excerpts of the *INDIAN EXPRESS* editorial regretting the totally negative response to the various Pakistani proposals regarding a mutual pact on nuclear installations. He said he hoped that the Indian Government will take note of the views of society's important and influential quarters and will adopt a constructive attitude to these proposals.

Speaking on five other adjournment motions, Zain Noorani said reports published in the foreign press and later appearing in the Pakistani press regarding fierce fighting in the Siachen Glacier area are incorrect. He said there has been neither air nor land fighting, nor have there been 200 casualties. He said the Indian newspapers have also published the report quoting their official sources describing the reports of fierce fighting in the areas as false.

Police Claim Kabul Arming Border Tribes

HK061147 Hong Kong AFP in English 0933 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 6 (AFP) — The Afghan authorities have been massively distributing Soviet Kalashnikov rifles to tribal peoples in the Afghan border region in an attempt to win their support against Moslem rebels, according to police quoted by local correspondents.

Hundreds of tribal men have been travelling to Kabul to collect the guns for their people while two helicopter drops of weapons were made on the Afghan side of the border last month.

The arms delivery appears to be part of a campaign announced by Afghan President Babrak Karmal to "seal" the border with Pakistan following major offensives on the border provinces this summer.

The weapons handout followed a major gathering of border tribespeople at Kabul in September, which was also attended by nearly 5,000 tribal members from the Pakistan side of the border, some of whom are in dispute with the Pakistani Government.

The Kabul government, which provided luxurious conditions for their stay and ensured time was set aside for prayers, tried to persuade them that the Soviet-backed Afghan Government posed no threat to Islam and urged them to halt the cross-border movement of the rebels between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The Afghan Government, however, failed to get any firm undertaking from the tribes represented, according to local reports, although they followed up the gift with threats that they could be forced to bomb the tribal areas if there were many Mujahadeen installed there.

The tribes are reportedly now discussing the government's demand among themselves but several groups support the rebels or the Pakistani Government.

Latest reports suggest that the bait of weapons will not have the desired effect and will only fuel existing tensions in the tribal areas and provide a weapons trial to other Pakistani provinces.

Some tribal members have already resold their guns to dealers from the Pakistani provinces of Punjab and Sind, correspondents said.

The Pakistani tribal zones have an unruly history and have traditionally enjoyed minimum government interference, living from smuggling and hash and opium dealing and more recently from growing poppies for heroin.

Under pressure from the United States the Pakistani Government has for the past two years been sending troops into the area to break up laboratories and destroy the poppy crop. The tribal people theoretically get financial compensation from the West but they claim it is insufficient and accuse government agents of syphoning off part of it.

The influx of Afghan refugees into the Pakistan side of the border following the Soviet intervention has also aggravated the splits between tribal people. Pakistani tribes who have seen their smuggling business threatened by the newcomers have obtained government backing to close down refugee camps in the tribal zones.

The refugees have also upset the local balance between Shi'ite and Sunni Moslems, backing the Sunnis when it comes to a fight.

Rival tribes last week exchanged gunfire near the Khyber Pass and two people were kidnapped. As intertribal killings and kidnappings increased some tribes went to ask help from Kabul and were well received.

The Pakistani Government's reaction to the current arms hand--outs seems to be to push tribes which support them to ambush those returning from Kabul loaded with Kalashnikovs.

MASHRIQ on Ziaul Haq-Reagan Meeting, U.S. Aid

GF021142 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 27 Oct 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Ziaul-Reagan Meeting"]

[Text] The meeting between President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq and President Reagan has become not only a means to strengthen and promote bilateral relations, but has also become extremely useful and meaningful in relation to the defense and territorial integrity of Pakistan. President Reagan has assured that Pakistan will continue to receive military and economic aid, even after 1987, and that this aid will be given on easy terms.

Since the Soviet Union has taken control of Afghanistan, threats of violence along the northwestern borders of Pakistan have greatly increased and the territorial integrity of the region is threatened. Despite this serious situation, Pakistan has never wavered from its principled and just stand concerning the Afghanistan crisis. Pakistan's position is that foreign troops should be immediately removed from the country, its historical, Islamic, and nonaligned status should be restored, Afghans should be given the right to choose the form of government they wish, and an atmosphere should be created for Afghan refugees to honorably return to their homes.

Pakistan's position is appreciated by the ICO summit, the nonaligned countries, the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly, and the Islamic brotherhood strongly supports it. Still pressure continues to grow along the Pakistani borders and its territorial integrity continues to be threatened.

It was under these circumstances, in view of President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq's efforts and the threat to world peace, that the United States signed an agreement to provide Pakistan with military and economic aid worth $3.5 billion. The agreement expires in 1987. The aid has strengthened Pakistan's defenses, but the Afghanistan tangle continues and the situation in the area remains unhealthy. During such circumstances it is essential that American economic and military aid to Pakistan continue beyond 1987, and the validity of the agreement should be extended accordingly.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan has held talks with the American authorities concerning aid. The heads of both countries reached an agreement in principle during their talks at the United Nations 40th anniversary celebrations. High-ranking officials of both countries are now meeting on the type and amount of military and economic aid and the procedures for its delivery. They will also decide on the details of continuing to supply aid after 1987.

The realities created by the Afghanistan crisis have shown that the secret to the defense and territorial integrity of South Asia and other countries in the region lies in Pakistan's defense capabilities. It is because of this that the world community, while providing financial aid to the Afghan refugees, has stressed Pakistan's need for a strong defense. Consequently, in view of world community pressures, the United States has decided to continue military and economic aid to Pakistan. In his address to the UN General Assembly, President Reagan has justifiably called the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan a historical incident which necessitated American military aid to Pakistan. In his talks with President Ziaul Haq, President Reagan has promised military aid to Pakistan even after 1987 to assure peace and security in the region.

Defense and economic progress depend on each other. Therefore, President Ziaul Haq has stressed the need for continued economic aid along with the military aid. Economic progress these days requires modern technology, thus President Ziaul Haq has accordingly explained to President Reagan the details of Pakistan's peaceful nuclear energy program. He explained that the agricultural and industrial sectors could be strengthened by finding the means to meet growing energy needs. This would result in the welfare of the Pakistani people. In this meeting he also denied the dangers claimed by the Indian rulers and other enemies of Pakistan in their hostile propaganda and presented to President Reagan a constructive program to promote nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

We are certain that President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq's peaceful and sincere efforts will create peace in the region. Pakistan's strong defense guarantees security for the countries in the region and South Asia will become a region free of nuclear weapons. Moreover, nuclear energy and its peaceful uses will help to resolve the people's livelihood problems.

Papers on U.S., Indian Stand on Atomic Program

JANG Editorial

GF021402 Lahore JANG in Urdu 27 Oct 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The United States Should Be Asked To Clarify"]

[Text] What actually took place between President Ziaul Haq, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the subject of nonproliferation of atomic arms in South Asia has become controversial. Parties to the talks have made several contradictory claims. However, the BBC has recently shed some light on the subject.

After the Ziaul Haq-Rajiv meeting, Pakistani media reported that an agreement had been reached for studying the question of possible profileration of atomic weapons, and that both agreed to hold discussions between their technical experts aimed at preventing the beginning of a nuclear arms race in the region.

The Indian media reported that no clear agreement was reached on the subject and that both sides had only agreed on the need to exchange views on the issue. However, the Indian prime minister, after his meeting with President Reagan, said that during their meeting President Reagan first proposed that India agree to Pakistan's proposals on the subject which President Ziaul Haq made in his address before the UN General Assembly. But later during the same meeting President Reagan said that before Pakistan's atomic program could reach a point of no return India must act on her own to check its course. Mr Rajiv Gandhi then said that he had asked Mr Reagan what he meant by that. Mr Gandhi added that President Reagan's remark had puzzled him.

According to U.S. sources, President Reagan only suggested to Mr Gandhi that India should try to reach some understanding with Pakistan over this sensitive issue.

The above details show that all is not very clear regarding the talks between Ziaul Haq and Mr Gandhi, or between President Reagan and Mr Gandhi. However, the most alarming aspect is that according to the Indian prime minister, President Reagan advised Mr Gandhi that before Pakistan's atomic program gets out of hand he must take steps to stop it. This is a very profound revelation which even if only slightly true reveals the true nature of U.S. friendship with Pakistan and also shows how far the western countries and the United States are willing to go in order to stop the efforts of any Muslim country to acquire nuclear weapons.

The Pakistani Government first should ask the United States what President Reagan meant by the phrase quoted by Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

India, which wants to see Pakistan weak and India stronger, is willing to use any strategy to gain that objective. The Indian mass media for a long time have been vigorously attacking Pakistan's atomic energy program. But during the past few months, this campaign has assumed an even vaster and louder quality. In a recent press conference in New Delhi, Mr Rajiv Gandhi went so far as to say that he does not want to see Indian cities reduced to the rubble of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. His remark suggests that he was accusing Pakistan of intending to make the bomb and use it against Indian cities.

However, this is a false accusation and is calculated to malign Pakistan.

For the past year there have been reports that India was to make a preemptive strike against atomic installations in Pakistan, but that the strike was postponed because of the death of Mrs Indira Gandhi. But now, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, quoting President Reagan, has revealed that what took place between them was even more sinister than the original Indian preemptive plan.

As far as Indian intentions are concerned, Pakistan has never entertained any euphoria about them. However, to think that even the United States can go that far was unthinkable.

Anyway, we would not like to make any further comment on the matter until it becomes clear what actually took place between Mr Reagan and Mr Rajiv Gandhi during their meeting.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi's attitude, after having accepted President Ziaul Haq's proposals as logical, of not laying his cards on the table, reveals that India is not willing to reach any agreement over the question of nuclear weapons with Pakistan and that Pakistan should not wait for India's reactions, but should continue to carry out its atomic energy program greatly needed for its national interests.

NAWA-E WAQT Editorial

GF021419 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 28 Oct 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The Repercussions of Gandhi's Moscow Pilgrimage"]

[Excerpts] There have been attempts to depict Mr Gandhi's visit to Moscow, on his return from New York to Delhi, as sudden. Even Indian radio has attempted to show that he was supposed to return to New Delhi after a brief stopover in the Netherlands, plans which he allegedly changed at the last minute. But his welcome by Mr Ryzhkov, Gorbachev, and other high officials and subsequent talks definitely give the impression that the visit was far from sudden and had been planned at home or in New York. He did not go to Moscow in response to a sudden summons; he merely felt that he had to go in view of the dependence that India has on the Soviet Union.

It is possible that Mr Gandhi's goal was to report on his U.S. visit, or to personally convey a message from the U.S. Government. Last June he visited Washington with his foreign secretary, Mr Bhandari; he then dispatched Bhandari to Moscow. Now with his personal sojourn to Moscow the attention of the world

in general and Pakistan in particular has been drawn to his statement made before the journalists' association at the United Nations regarding his meeting with President Reagan, in which he said that the U.S. President said: "You must stop Pakistan before it reaches a point of no return." Mr Gandhi later stated that he did not understand the implication of this enigmatic statement by Reagan, but U.S. officials later clarified the statement. The U.S. President has not clarified the statement attributed to him by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and according to Mr Asghar Khan, [leader of defunct opposition party] the 40th anniversary of the United Nations has brought untold anxiety for Pakistan which no amount of clarification by the U.S. State Department can remove, nor will it allay the fears of the Pakistani people. He is not far wrong in saying that it does not matter what President Reagan has said. But what is important is how Mr Gandhi has interpreted it and what he plans to do about it. Speculation will continue on whether Mr Gandhi's trip to Moscow was preplanned or whether it was a spur of the moment decision. The crux of the matter is what plan he will submit to his Soviet mentors and how much support and assistance he will receive from the Soviet Union in this matter. Collusion and collaboration between Moscow and India is not a new phenomenon, but what matters for Pakistan is that if Rajiv Gandhi's statement regarding Pakistan's nuclear program — which he has attributed to Mr Reagan — is not true, and if Mr Rajiv Gandhi's interpretation presented before the world is fallacious, then Mr Reagan should refute it immediately. It will not help if the State Department issues repeated clarifications because Mr Rajiv Gandhi's utterances will be given more importance, especially as he has made such a statement before the world.

MASHRIQ Editorial

GF021818 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 28 Oct 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Why There Is No Peace in the World?"]

[Excerpts] Answering questions from correspondents, Rajiv Gandhi said that Pakistan's proposals were insufficient and were therefore rejected. He said President Ziaul Haq's proposals on the face of it look very comprehensive, but these are not enough to satisfy us. I wish Rajiv Gandhi had given some reason as to why he was dissatisfied with them and how he could be satisfied. He also referred to his talks with President Reagan on the question of Pakistan's nuclear threat. He said that President Reagan at first assured him that Pakistan had no program to make atomic weapons, but that President Reagan also added that if India thought that Pakistan's nuclear program was about to be completed then India could stop it any way it likes.

Rajiv Gandhi has thus caused a question to arise: What did President Reagan, after all, mean by these words? We think the uncertainty is in the mind of Rajiv Gandhi because he fanatically wishes that Pakistan's nuclear installations be destroyed somehow. The words that he attributes to President Reagan have not been published in any paper. Rajiv Gandhi himself admits that he was assured that Pakistan had no program to make nuclear weapons. If President Reagan is sure that Pakistan's nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, why would he advise India to deal with Pakistan any way it likes? Quite the contrary, President Reagan considers peaceful and friendly relations between Pakistan and India vital for regional and world peace. He has advised both countries that in order to keep their own region free of nuclear danger, both should join hands and make some security arrangements. American authorities have now clarified that in his meeting with Rajiv Gandhi, President Reagan only stressed that India should react positively to Pakistan's proposals for nonproliferation of nuclear arms. Rajiv Gandhi believes, it seems, that just as Israel destroyed Iraq's nuclear installations, India should also have the right to destroy Pakistan's nuclear installations. We think that such wishes of countries given to aggression are the main hurdles in the way of regional and world peace. It is the duty of all countries to follow the policy of "live and let live" and give up for good the idea of using force. The manufacturing of nuclear arms should be declared illegal. This is the only way to make the world happy and peaceful in the real sense through the United Nations. Pakistan is a small country. Like most countries, it wants the world to be saved from war, hunger, and disease, and all nations should live in peaceful coexistence. However, big countries are engaged in the malaise of imposing their hegemony over others. They maintain their own circles of influence and they strive to expand these circles. India also is dreaming of becoming a mini-superpower in South Asia. It will not accept that Pakistan should live on equal terms with it. We therefore think that India's intentions toward us are far from good.

PAKISTAN TIMES on USSR Presence in Afghanistan

GF070612 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 29 Oct 85 pp 4, 5

[Article by Bashir Ahmad: "The Afghan Impasse"]

[Text] The war in Afghanistan is nearing its sixth year, with none of the warring factions within sight of victory. The war has been virtually stalemated.

Russia invaded Afghanistan on December 27, 1979 and hostilities have dragged on since. The invaders occupy cities including Kabul, air bases and garrisons while the Mujahidin control the countryside. Thousands of ragtag guerrillas have waged war for more than five years against far better equipped Soviet forces occupying their country. The Soviets cannot subjugate them nor could the Afghans drive out the invaders. Russians are in the habit of not leaving a country which they once enter while Afghans in their history have never allowed any invaders to stay in their country. Why do they stubbornly fight on, then? Insists Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of one rebel group; "Time is on the side of resistance." A blithe spirit and patriots' determination to do or die make up for the glaring deficiency of arms.

The Soviets in Afghanistan, out of frustration, have turned to a scorched-earth policy, using air strikes and tanks to raze entire villages; they even scatter "toy bombs" that explode when picked up, often maiming children. A major objective of their military operation seems to be to intimidate and terrorize the population so that they withdraw support to the Mujahidin or abandon areas of intense resistance. High altitude carpet bombing, destruction of villages, nepalm bombs, anti-personnel mines, execution of civilians, etc. testify to their nefarious intent. A concerted effort at economic warfare has taken the shape of outright destruction

of crops and the irrigation system, coupled with supplying peasants living in government-held areas seed, fertilizers, implements and even food on extremely favourable terms. For their part, the insurgents have so often mutilated the bodies of Soviet soldiers that authorities forbid their families to open the coffins when the fallen troops are returned home for burial.

The Soviets are engaged in a political effort as well. This objective has been sought through a sustained and determined effort to create a new loyal and indoctrinated class from amongst the local population. According to *DIE WELT*, a West German newspaper, 46,772 Afghans were sent to the Soviet Union and 6,174 to East Germany, Bulgaria and Cuba between July 1980 and December 1984. Children who comprise a fair proportion thereof are to stay in the USSR for 5 to 10 years so that conversion is complete. For Soviet orientation, people from all walks of life are invited from time to time, including those from the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan. The army and the police send the largest contingents to the 'sister nation'. The April 1978 coup that brought Khalq Party to power also marked the beginning of an attempt to radically transform the traditional Afghan value system and its social structure. It was this attempt that precipitated nation-wide resistance on the part of the people of Afghanistan.

Soviet troops suffer from low morale, heavy use of drugs and alcholism. The experiment to harness soldiers from Central Asian Republics miscarried as a process of fraternization ensued between the Muslim fighters on both sides. The attempt to use the Afghan soldiers against the mujahidin failed as there were massive desertions in the Afghan Army. On the eve of the Soviet invasion the Afghan Army consisted of some 100,000 troops, which now fluctuates between 20,000 to 30,000. The forces of occupation comprise some 125,000 Russian soldiers now.

Penetration of the Afghan Government and military by the so-called insurgents is extensive and has contributed , to a significant extent, to Russia's failure to accomplish the set task. Cross-border attacks on Pakistan, Soviet-Afghan artillery shelling, aircraft penetrations and bombing involving loss of valuable lives and property continue and reflect frustration over their inability to crush the revolutionaries. The Soviet design of a warm water port has been stalled for the time being. The Czars had long dreamt of this for ensuring Russian domination of the Indian Ocean to control the egress of the Red Sea and the Suez Canal.

Peace is imperative and both sides need it. Pakistan cannot indefinitely shoulder the refugee burden or grapple with the law and order situation created by their presence. Due to the milling crowds in the wake of influx there is no space left in Peshawar to stand up or move about. The refugees have monopolised the transport sector and taken over most of the shops in the cities' trading centre. On top, our security environment is worsening with a super-power knocking at our very doors. They being so near Peshawar, Chitral and Chaman pose a threat to the fighting in Afghanistan and on our borders spilling over into Pakistan. Pakistan cannot afford to be complacent about the contentious issue. There have been reports of Soviet-Afghan military action against insurgents sometimes as close to the Pak-Afghan border as two miles.

The United Nations-sponsored proximity talks have not so far led to a compromise settlement. Five rounds have been held, and communicating through Mr Diego Cardovez, the secretary general's personal representative, the Afghani and Pakistani foreign ministers, Shah Mohammad Dost and Sahabzada Yaqub Khan agree against outside interference in Afghanistan and that the refugees should go home. They have not settled the question of what sort of government should run Afghanistan when the Russians have left, nor the central issue of how to link the withdrawal of Soviet troops to a cut-off in aid to the resistance. The Russians and Afghans say that aid must be cut off first: The Americans and Pakistanis say that a timetable for withdrawal must be drawn up, and then they will talk about restricting the activities of the resistance forces. The impending November summit between M. Gorbachev and R. Reagan is likely to improve the atmosphere for a decisive break-through during December's Geneva talks. The annual UN resolution bespeaks the success of Pakistan's diplomacy.

The Russian tone has become softer; a Soviet official recently said that they did not want "an inch of Afghan soil" and that they would like to get out as soon as possible. The American attitude has also shifted. They became cool about the negotiations after 1983 when they opposed the agreement drafted by the United Nations but in the past few months, they have shown enthusiasm about the Geneva talks partly because, according to the American intelligence sources, they reckon chances of the Russians agreeing to a timetable for withdrawal have improved. In fact Mr Rajiv Gandhi during his visit to America in June, 1985 while dissuading America from supply of military hardware to Pakistan was confronted with a suggestion by President Reagan to persuade the USSR to terminate the security threat to Pakistan arising from the 1979 invasion of Afghanistan which had necessitated armed help to that country. Viewed in the context one is inclined to perceive a change in America's attitude. A political settlement is the need of the hour and Pakistan will welcome it. Pakistan objects to across-the-table negotiations with representatives of the Kabul government as that would, in its view, constitute a recognition of the Karmal regime. Nothing, however, preludes Pakistan to negotiate and sort out direct with the Soviets the vexed question which has bedevilled relations between our countries over the past now six years. Pakistan is accused of acting as a conduit for supply of armaments to the insurgents and affording them sanctuary. Repeated vehement denials on Pakistan's part have availed not. It is time therefore to take a bold stand and if any country even through a superpower wants to impede the search for a negotiated solution with the Soviet Union, with single-mindedness we should pursue the path of peace to promote our own national interests. Addressing a cross-section of the Pakistani community based in various parts of the United States in New York (October 21, 1985) President Ziaul Haq himself stated: "the situation in Afghanistan was the creation of the Soviet Union. The key therefore lies in Moscow and not in Kabul."

BANGLADESH

Ershad Greets USSR Officials on October Anniversary

BK061558 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] President Ershad has said the existing friendly relations between Bangladesh and the Soviet Union will be further strengthened and developed in the years to come. In a message to President Gromyko on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the October revolution of the Soviet Union, the Bangladesh president wished continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Soviet Union.

$40-million Trade Agreement With Pakistan Signed

BK060919 Dhaka BSS in English 0640 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Dhaka Nov 6 BSS — Bangladesh and Pakistan have agreed to conclude a Special Trading Arrangements [as received] (STA) within next two months envisaging an annual turnover of U.S. dollars 40 million each way. The STA will be conducted through state trading corporations of the two countries in addition to the existing usual and private sector bilateral trade transactions.

An agreed minutes to this effect was signed here yesterday at the end of a four-day fifth meeting of the Bangladesh-Pakistan joint committee on trade. Bangladesh Commerce Secretary A.B.M. Golam Mustafa and his Pakistan counterpart Mukhtar Masood signed the agreed minutes on behalf of the respective governments.

SRI LANKA

Delhi: Jayewardene Meeting With Peres Confirmed

BK061401 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] The Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr Tyronne Fernando [as heard], has said that President Jayewardene had a secret meeting with the Israeli prime minister, Mr Peres, in Paris last month. Mr Fernando was replying to an opposition question in Parliament in Colombo. He, however, declined to give any further details.

Mr Fernando said the meeting took place when President Jayewardene was on his way back home from the Commonwealth summit meeting in Bahamas. Both Mr Jayewardene and Mr Perez were staying in the same hotel.

Sri Lanka does not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

Total of 15 Killed by Landmines, Ambush Attacks

BK061323 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Eleven security forces personnel were killed by terrorist landmine explosion this morning in the eastern province. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that seven policemen were killed in a Marxist terrorist landmine explosion and ambush on the (Annai Kanthai) road. In a second incident, four soldiers were killed and three others were injured in a terrorist land mine explosion between Vakarai and (Dengal) in the Batticalao district.

Tehran Car-Bomb Blast Injures Three People

LD070935 Tehran IRNA in English 0918 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 7, IRNA — Three people were injured one severely in a bomb explosion in Naser-Khosrow Ave., downtown Tehran, Thursday morning.

The explosives said to be ten pounds of TNT, were planted inside an automobile, which went off at 10:00 am local time (06:30 GMT), Tehran police said.

As a result of the terrorist explosion carried out by agents of international arrogance, three people were injured one reported to be in critical condition. Several cars were damaged and windows of shops and the nearby buildings were also shattered.

Further Reportage on Khamene'i Provincial Tour

LD061239 Tehran IRNA in English 1222 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Yasuj, Bovir Admadi va Kohkiluyeh Prov. Nov. 6, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i in the second day of his tour of Bovir Ahmadi va Kohkiluyeh Province, arrived here Wednesday morning and was welcomed by the city's officials.

The president and his entourage paid tributes to martyrs at the city's cemetery. He then left Yasuj for Behdasht where he was welcomed by the family members of martyrs and local officials.

Addressing a gathering at the city's stadium, the president said that superpowers in collaboration with the Iraqi regime and using their modern weapons, tried to destroy the Persian Gulf. They thought in vain that the Persian Gulf was a glass house to be shattered by a bullet, he added.

However, he pointed out all these efforts proved to be useless and actions were taken so that all ships passing through the Persian Gulf were inspected. Meanwhile Iran has made it clear that if the U.S. carried out its threats in the Persian Gulf or U.S. agents created tension, Iran would seal off the Persian Gulf for all countries and has the ability to do so.

The president then left for Gachsaran.

Addressing thousands of tribesmen and people of Yasuj Tuesday, the president and head of the Supreme Defence Council, explained military, economic, political and cultural stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He added that in a near future Iran will deal such a severe blow on its enemy that it would never dream of committing another act of aggression against Iran.

Referring to the toppled regime of the shah and its subserviance to U.S. imperialism and the Zionist regime, the president said that the regime was spreading corruption, cultural decedance and other kinds of vices. At the same time the country's agriculture was totally ignored and the poor had become poorer. Under the former regime economic and foreign policy of Iran, he added, were formulated by the U.S. administration.

However, after the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution, ties of dependence were severed one after another and the country regained its independence through implementation of teachings of Islam, he told the crowd. The Islamic Republic of Iran launched its campaign for independence through the principle of neither East nor West, he added.

On plots of the U.S. against the Islamic revolution, he said that the White House has tried to provoke reactionary governments of the region against Iran. "However, we have made it clear to our neighbours that we have nothing against them." But, he stressed, Iran will not remain indifferent towards any hostility and will give a due response to such actions.

He further reiterated that Iran will not accep' an ignominious peace and stressed that pressures exerted by the enemies increases resistance of the Iranian people. "The Islamic combatants will cointinue to war with their might until the downfall of (Iraqi ruler) Saddam," he added.

At the end he stressed importance of developing agricultural sector of the country and called for unity among tribesmen.

Warns of Retaliation For Iraqi Attacks

LD061837 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Yasuj, Nov. 6, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i warned Wednesday that the Islamic Republic will retaliate [for an] Iraqi attack on industrial and residential areas of the country.

Iraqi planes had earlier bombed two industrial units in the suburbs of Ahvaz killing and wounding a group of workers and damaging the units.

Speaking in the Gachsaran sports stadium, the president said that Iraqi attacks on industrial units and villages in Iran were due to its anger over the victory of Muslim combatants in the war fronts.

Iran's Muslim combatants have been launching a chain of successful small-scale offensives in various sectors of the 1,200-km warfront for the past several months.

Khamene'i warned "I declare that we shall answer firmly to every attack from Baghdad".

He said that a group of Iraqi dissidents recently asked Iran's political representatives abroad "why the Iraqi capital of Baghdad is not being bombarded any more".

The president said that the Islamic Republic will continue to carry out its policies. "We shall push through this period with strength and the Iranian nation will live a proud life for many years to come" he said.

Khamene'i, on a tour of inspection of the Kohkiluyeh Province, was met by local officials and ulema when he arrived in Gachsaran.

Earlier he inspected the gas complex, 30 km from the town, which will save some dollar three billion of natural gas that burns away now.

The president praised the staff for running the complex which had some one thousand foreign experts before the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

He said the arrogant foreign powers thought Iranians would not be able to run the industry but now "you have shown them you devoted people people can do anything".

Khamene'i also visited a tribal camp some five kilometers away from where he talked with the Tribesmen and heard the local school children sing a song of unity.

After his speech in the stadium the president left for Shiraz air base where he talked briefly with air force personnel.

Speaks in Shiraz, Departs

GF070624 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, following his 2-day visit to Bovie Ahmadi va Kohkiluyeh arrived in Shiraz from Gachsaran. According to our reporter, on his arrival at Shiraz air base, the president was formally welcomed by the officials of Fars Province. He attended a dinner jointly held by the military and security forces of Fars Province.

During a speech, he expressed his satisfaction with the bravery and sacrifices of the armed forces in the imposed war. He said: There is no one who is aware of today's world affairs and does not know the importance of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the international level and in international political assemblies. This has been gained through the efforts of the nation and the officials of the country. He added: The world knows if we give warnings and information on our future activities and movements, we are not exaggerating.

Mr Khamene'i added: Today our army is one of the most experienced, faithful, and sincere armies in the world. Today our army is carrying a great responsibility on its shoulders. The head of the Supreme Defense Council also said: As an official of this system, I tell you that if we did not carry out our work with these self-sacrificing sincere people we would commit a great sin. Your important and heavy responsibility is education, discipline, protection, rebuilding, trying to attain self-sufficiency, bravery, and penetration of deep faith in the [words indistinct] in order for you to be able to work with all your being for the great desires of this nation.

Later Mr Khamene'i departed from this city for Tehran during a warm, enthusiastic send-off by the military personnel of Shiraz air base.

Return to Tehran

LD062339 Tehran IRNA in English 1856 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 6, IRNA — President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i returned here wednesday at 20:30 hours local time (17:00 GMT) from a tour of various cities in Bovir Ahmadi va Kohkiluyeh Province. His last stop was an impromptu visit to an airforce base in Shiraz, Fars Province.

The president had left for the said provinces on Tuesday.

Musavi on Self-Reliance in Combatting Conspiracies

LD061824 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 6, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said Wednesday that even though the tottering regime of Saddam relied on France, the United States and the Soviet Union and other big powers and received massive infusions of cash and assistance from other reactionary countries to prop it up, the Islamic Republic only relies on the popular involvement of its people in order to resist against all these international conspiracies. He stressed that Iran is the only country single-handedly safeguarding its sovereignty and that its security does not depend upon political exchanges of the Soviet Union and the United States or the support of CIA, the Zionist media and subservient regimes.

Speaking to the board of directors and members of the relief headquarters to the warfronts of the aluminium industries, Musavireminded that the power of the Islamic Republic stems from the power of the nation and that Iran's politically sophisticated people guarantee the continuation of this power.

Musavi stressed that the support of the people for government and the battlefronts of the Iraqi imposed war had a broad meaning even in an international context, noting that their support was a mutual reciprocation of those who served them and did not mean supporting individuals, but in fact supporting the principles of the Islamic revolution. He added that now that Iran has become the focus of Islam and Islamic revolution, it plays a special role in human history.

In another part of his speech, the prime minister said that the movement of the Islamic Revolution was directed towards the sovereignty of Islamic ideology and not money and the rich people. The Iranian Muslim nation has not launched on a revolution and has not suffered so many martyrs to witness the domination of capitalism in the country. The Islamic Republic, he stressed, will fight against the thought that anyone who possesses more money should have political power.

He reminded that the government supported cooperatives.

The premier said that although the theory of foreign investments for economic development was accepted in most Third World countries, however, [as received] it was contrary to the principles of the Islamic Revolution. Such large-scale capital investment will ultimately result in unbearable pressure upon the people and their exploitation.

He said that the country should only rely on popular investments for this is the only way to economically develop the country without deviating from the principles of the Islamic Revolution.

Foreign Ministry Condemns U.S. Plot Against Libya

GF070544 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Text] Following the discovery of a plot to overthrow the revolutionary Government of Libya by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, a spokesman for our Foreign Ministry said: It becomes more clear everyday that claims of U.S. officials and the method of Western propaganda in making countries advancing in revolution look like terrorists is nothing but grounds for their activities to overthrow and carry out terrorist activities against revolutionary systems in Third World countries. He added: For a long time, the United States has tried to make the heroic resistance of the Islamic and oppressed nations against the spread of imperialism and Zionism look like terrorism; and recently they have made it appear to be government-supported terrorism. Their recent plot to overthrow the Libyan Goverment is the most clear example of terrorism.

This is only an example of hundreds of plots for assassinations, coups d'etat, and overthrowing leaders carried out by United Stat s Government organizations, none of which has ever been revealed.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman of our country, while condemning this kind of terrorist activity by the United States, expressed the decisive support of Islamic Republic of Iran for the government and the people of Libya, and announced that this kind of satanic plot has never stopped and will not stop the rightful struggle of developing countries. The Islamic Republic of Iran will remain beside the republic of Libya and other Muslim revolutionary forces in the region in their struggle against oppression.

Musavi Condemnation

LD070019 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 6, IRNA — Wednesday's Cabinet session took up discussion of the budget bill for fiscal year 1986-87. The meet was chaired by Premier Mir Hoseyn Musavi here.

The Cabinet approved some articles of the budget according to which. 349 million dollars was allocated for techno-industrial projects. Recent internal and foreign developments were also discussed in the session.

Speaking at the session Premier Musavi condemned U.S. plot to destabilize the Libyan Government and said it is clear that the U.S. Government is at the head of the global terrorism.

Musavi added the U.S. is aiming to eliminate popular and revolutionary forces by any means, but the Islamic Republic condemns such acts and fully supports Libya against it.

Velayati Greets Shevardnadze on Anniversary

LD071113 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Text] On the anniversary of the Soviet socialist revolution, the foreign affairs minister, Mr Velayati, sent a message of congratulations to his counterpart, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Sheykh ol-Eslam Discuss Cooperation

LD070916 Tehran IRNA in English 0734 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 7, IRNA — The Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Wednesday met Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, currently visiting Libya, and discussed regional issues and bilateral relations.

The Libyan leader referred to the U.S. as the major culprit for all plots. He added that the Islamic Republic's anti-U.S. campaign has contempted the U.S. administration.

Appreciating Iran's support for Libya, Col. Al-Qadhdhafi called for further continuation of bilateral cooperation.

Sheykh ol-Eslam referred to the recent foiled plot of the U.S. against Libya and stressed that the U.S. administration and the Zionist regime will continue their aggression against oppressed nations.

Outlining Iran's stance towards regional issues, Sheykh ol-Eslam said that the only alternative for the progressive Muslim forces in the region is to coordinate their anti-U.S., Zionist stance.

Central Bank Official on U.S. Debts, Oil Revenue

GF021923 Tehran AL-SHAHID in Arabic 9 Oct 85 pp 12-14

[Interview with Mohsen Nourbakhsh, governor of the Central Bank of Iran, by *AL-SHAHID* correspondent Bashir al-Husayni — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Bashir al-Husayni] The finance and economy experts believe that the economy of a certain country is reversely proportional to the volume of its foreign debts. Would you give us figures on the volume of your foreign debts?

[Nourbakhsh] I would like to tell you that I cannot give you figures for the foreign debts of the Islamic Republic simply because we are not indebted to any country, financial institutions, or banks. This is one of the prides and achievements of the Islamic Revolution in spite of the oppressive war mounted by the regime ruling in Iraq against our nation, our people, and our oil installations. We are still at the beginning of the road with regard to the elimination of the huge economic instability left by the defunct regime of the shah.

[Al-Husayni] Can you mention the countries which are indebted to you?

[Nourbakhsh] The United States is indebted to us in two accounts; the rest are suspended accounts. The U.S. Government is entitled to settle these accounts. We have another account, known as Account no. 1, with the U.S. federal system. This account amounts to $400 million. The other account, known as Account no. 2, is at the British central bank and amounts to about $500 million. The total sum the United States is under obligation to pay to us is $1 billion.

[Al-Husayni] Are you optimistic about the settling of these debts by the United States, or the problem is still complicated?

[Nourbakhsh] Of course, the United States is making much effort to hinder the settling of these debts, but we are insisting on collecting them. We believe that we will collect them despite all problems, because these moneys legally belong to our people.

[Al-Husayni] Have you refered the case to the international courts?

[Nourbakhsh] We are striving to solve this question now through negotiations between the two parties, but if we sense that the United States refuses to abide by its commitments and wants to hinder the efforts, we will simply refer the matter to international court of justice.

[Al-Husayni] Are you making direct negotiations or through a third party?

[Nourbakhsh] Negotiations between the two parties are made between the companies of the two countries. The companies are holding negotiations so as to reach an acceptable formula. There are also negotiations and discussions between the Iranian banking system and a group of U.S. banks. If these negotiations achieve nothing, we will undoubtedly resort to international justice.

[Al-Husayni] Did the attacks on the oil tankers and the attempts to hit Khark Island influence the financial balance of the Islamic Republic?

[Nourbaksh] In our 1984 budget, we guessed that the oil revenues would total about $21 billion. This was intimately connected with the market circumstances, navigation in the Gulf, and military threats. However, our revenues were $17 billion. This reduction was due to Iran's commitment to the OPEC resolutions on the production quotas of the oil-producing countries. Of course, we cannot deny the influence of the Iraqi military threats. However, the influence on the export of our oil was not as Iraq had expected. Oil revenues of $17 billion from our oil sales is proof of that. Therefore, the Iraqi threats were ineffective, but they contributed to increasing insurance and transportation costs.

TV, Radio Chief on Role of Iranian Broadcast Media

LD012236 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] In an interview with the Central News Unit correspondent, replying to the question as to what steps have been taken to deal with imperialist propaganda's dissemination of lies and rumormongering against Iran's Islamic revolution, Mr Mohammad Hashemi, managing director of the Voice of Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who is on a visit to Shiraz, said:

The boosting up of radio and TV networks inside and outside the country and the propagation and dissemination of Islamic values and the achievements of the Islamic revolution in various political, social, and economic fields and expounding Islamic values constitute a task which could be and is being carried out by the Voice and Vision. He added: This task is part of the fundamental radio and television planning and attention is being paid to it in all programs.

With regard to expanding radio and TV centers throughout the country, the managing director of the Voice and Vision organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran said: We do not have any problems now with regard to expanding these centers in the country. Our problem today is covering those regions that have not yet been covered.

In this connection, too, the necessary steps have also been taken. It is planned to make use of satellite systems and, of course, the satellite concerned has been rented and its ground installations too have been purchased and its main station has been erected and is going through its experimental phase and secondary stations are being purchased which, Allah willing, will be purchased next year and in future years, and the satellite system will be used in those places where a strong need is felt for transmitting voice and vision, and the coverage of the same will be boosted.

Radio Urges GCC to Consider Regional Stability

GF021940 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] With the convening of the sixth conference of the GCC leaders, it is necessary to state some important facts. The first fact pertains to the role that the GCC countries can play in order to preserve peace, security, and stability in the region. The security of the Gulf region is a joint security, the responsibility for which is shared by all the countries that overlook the Persian Gulf basin, since whatever befalls the region will have results and effect everybody without exception, since this basin represents the interests of all countries in the region, again without exception.

Proceeding from these principles, the Islamic Republic of Iran has called on the Gulf countries to effectively contribute to preserving the region's stability. Such a contribution will not be achieved without the factors for its success. The most important of these factors is independent Gulf decision and acting in the service of the interests of the peoples of the region.

What is important with regard to the security issue is to defend these peoples against impending dangers and not to defend the interests of the arrogant forces. Hence, the independence of the Gulf decision is a basic condition to defend the interests of these peoples. This is what the Islamic Republic of Iran has called for. It did not call on the Gulf countries to place their military power

in the basket of the arrogant forces and to defend the arteries of U.S., British, and French interests that pass through the Persian Gulf. Rather, it called on them to defend their peoples against the danger that threatens them, the basic source of which are the arrogant forces which look upon the Gulf region as if it were merely a barrel of oil.

The Gulf, however, is a Muslim land, history, and people. The oil belongs to these people and not to the arrogant forces.

Another fact connected with the above is that we are in agreement with all the Gulf countries that the region is subjected to great dangers. What is the source of this danger, however, and from where does it blow over the Gulf countries? This is the question which those who will meet in Muscat must answer before stating the clauses of their defense strategy.

Events and their implications have proved that the whole Islamic region, particularly the Gulf region, is facing great perils. The source of these dangers, however, is the United States, Israel, and the other countries of international arrogance. These countries recognize only their interests and benefits. To them everything is relative and dependent on circumstances and time.

It is necessary to concentrate on the dangers which emanate from these countries. It is imperative to confront an aggression by international arrogance ready to be executed in any Islamic area. It is necessary to lay down the goals of the defense strategy vis-a-vis these dangers.

The third fact also connected with the above pertains to the Gulf stand regarding the Ba'thist aggression against the Islamic Republic. We are not asking the Gulf region anything more than to uphold the logic of right against wrong. We ask of them no more than to adopt an independent stand on this war which stems from their interests and the interest of their Islamic peoples. In any event, this stand will not be separated from the security issue. Saddam today poses no danger to the Islamic Republic, as events and the progress of the war have proved. Rather, he poses a danger to the Gulf countries, since he tries to draw these countries into the battlefield while they are powerless, so that they will meet with the same fate which his aggressive regime has faced. Is being drawn into this war in the interest of the Gulf countries? This is a question which we address to everybody, rulers and people. It is a question that requires from those who will meet in Muscat a frank and clear answer, in light of the undisputed facts. It is that which draws these countries into the war that represents the danger which threatens the Gulf region. It is imperative that this danger be curbed before it spreads and turns the region into ashes and smoke.

Former Prisoner in France on 'Inhuman' Treatment

LD061812 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 6, IRNA — An Iranian student who spent three years in French jails on vague charges of terrorist activities, said here Wednesday that French police subject prisoners to all kinds of mental and physical torture and that their behaviour with them is "inhuman".

The student, Parviz Afsari who went to France to continue his education, was arrested at Paris international airport on July 7th, 1982 and imprisoned for 38 months. He was recently deported after serving his sentence.

Speaking at a press conference here Wednesday, Afsari said that the French Government seeks to damage the Islamic Republic's reputation in order to check the spread of the message of the Islamic Revolution.

He added that French mass media tried to misrepresent cultural activities of Iranian Muslim students currently living in France as terrorist operations and said the French Government had closed Iran's Cultural Center in Paris on the same pretext.

Afsari further said that during his trial in a French court he was not given an opportunity to defend himself or meet his defence lawyer.

The student added that since the early days of his imprisonment he was subjected to severe mental and physical pressure by his French interrogators who beat him up and forced him to stay awake and go hungry quite often to extort untrue confessions from him.

Meanwhile, French jail keepers did not hand him Iranian-published dailies and instead, insisted that he read publications of Iranian counter-revolutionary groups, Afsari said.

On conditions of French Jails, the Iranian student said that French prisoners staged many demonstrations at the jails this year in protest to unjust verdict of French courts, improper and bad behaviour of jail keepers with the prisoners.

Afsari said that counter-revolutionary groups living in France with the protection of French Government undermine the Islamic students' activities.

Iraqi Regime Destroys Own Villages, Kills Citizens

LD012012 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] The Iraqi regime, by devastating the village of Gorg-Tappeh, in the Kordestan region of Iraq, has brought the number of villages it has ruined in the north of this country during the current year to a total of 105. According to the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, reports received from inside Iraq state that the Zionist Iraqi regime, in continuation of its criminal policies against the Muslim and oppressed people of this country, is harrassing and making life difficult for people in the City of Suleymani, has levelled to the ground dozens of houses because of their occupants' opposition to the policies of Saddam, and has savagely martyred the inhabitants of these regions.

IRGC Officer Meets, Encourages Iraqi Mujahidin

LD022003 Tehran IRNA in English 1613 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Nov. 2, IRNA — Commanders of the 9th Badr Brigade, comprising Iraqi Muslim mujahidin,

met with the ground forces commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC), Rahim Safavi, Thursday.

The brigade commander, explained details of the recent "Ashura-4" offensive, and said the brigade was ready to carry out large scale operations.

Appreciating the Iraqi mujahidin's participation in the offensive Safavi said that the mujahidin will play a key role in Iraq's future. He called on the mujahidin to continue their struggle until they free Iraqi people from the present regime.

Refering to the history of Iraq's Ba'th party, the IRGC'S commander said Saddam's fate will be even worse than what befell the Shah of Iran and Anwar al-Sadat in Egypt.

Tehran Reports Iraqi Kurds Attack Iraqi Soldiers

GF030629 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Reports received from inside Iraqi territory indicate that the Iraqi combatant Kurds, during an ambush operation along the Sulaymaniyah-Dukan highway, killed more than 15 Iraqi mercenaries and took as booty a large quantity of the enemy's arms and ammunition.

According to an IRNA report based on informed sources, in retaliation for this attack, the Iraqi regime brutally raided the villages of Arambegi, (Sobtekon), (Kokheh), and Goradeh, with helicopters and heavy artillery and abused innocent villagers. Consequently, they came into a confrontation with the Kurd combatants. During this clash more than 12 men of the Iraqi regime's forces were killed and the remaining were driven out of the villages.

Insurgents Attack Iraqi Troops

GF030925 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries have launched an attack on an assembly point of the Saddamist troops in Kirkuk. They killed or wounded five of them.

Reports from Iraq indicate that the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries attacked another assembly point of the Iraqi troops between Al-Nasiriyah Province and Al-Fuhud in southern Iraq. They killed six Saddamists and wounded several others.

Qazvin, Zahedan Volunteers Leave for Battlefronts

LD012315 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 1 Oct 85

[Text] Extensive departure of our popular forces to join other Islamic combatants on the battlefronts continues. According to a Central News Unit report a group of volunteer mobilization combatants from Qazvin left for the battle against the Ba'thist aggressors amid send-off ceremonies prepared by the city's citizens. Chanting the slogans: "War, War Till Victory!," "Neither Compromise Nor Capitulation, But Fighting Till Victory!" The volunteer combatants proclaimed their indomitable will to continue their victories until the uprooting of aggression in the region.

According to another Central News Unit report from Zahedan, following the dispatch of specialized popular forces to continue the relentless battle by the monotheistic troops on the battlefronts, more than 70 tipper truck owners and their trucks from the cities of Zahedan, Zabol, Khash and Iranshahr left yesterday for the fronts. According to this report, the tipper truck owners will assist the Islamic combatants of the warfront engineering units for a period of 15 days.

Tehran Reports Clergymen Headed for Battlefields

LD012326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] A Central News Unit report says that a second group of clergymen, belonging to Islamic Propaganda Bureau, comprising of 620 clergy from Qom, left this morning for the battlefields after attending special ceremonies at the bureau. The clergymen were chanting slogans about the presence of the clergy on the battlefields next to Islamic combatants and their determination to eliminate evil.

In an interview given to the Central News Unit, an official of the headquarters responsible for sending clergy to battlefronts commented on the headquarters' activities, the presence of the clergy on the battlefronts as well as the number of clergymen martyred, saying: On average more than 6,000 clergy and missionaries are present on the warfronts each year. Moreover, every academic [word indistinct) around 400 are dispatched to the fronts.

He then added: So far, more than 880 clergymen have been martyred in the fronts; also, about 125 more have been rendered disabled. These figures relate only for those clergymen sent from Qom. Furthermore, up to date, 250 clergymen from all over the country are reported missing.

Others Depart for Front

LD021411 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0300 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] In order to assist the combatants of Islam on the battlefronts of the war of justice against injustice, yesterday afternoon, a large group from the volunteer Basij [mobilization] forces from various parts of the Province of Lorestan, including the cities of Khorramabad, Borujerd, Ali-Gudarz, and parts of Pol-e Dokhtar, Dorud, Alashtar, Azna, and Kuhdasht, set off for the fronts of war from the Imam Hoseyn base in Khorramabad. A large group of members of the Basij unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps from the province of Ilam, set off for the battlefronts of good against evil amidst a send-off by the inhabitants and worshippers of Ilam.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Ahvaz Bombed by Iraq

LD061240 Tehran IRNA in English 1128 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan prov., Nov. 6, IRNA — two industrial units located in the suburbs of Ahvaz was bombed by Iraqi warplanes Wednesday morning.

A number of workers at the units were martyred and wounded and damages were inflicted on the units.

28 Killed

GF061454 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] At around 1042 [0712 GMT], Iraqi aggressor aircraft bombed two industrial units of Ahvaz as well as residential areas around them. According to a report by the Central News Unit correspondent, the enemy attack so far has resulted in the martyrdom of 28 workers and people living in the area as well as the wounding of a number of others. Several women and children are among the martyred and wounded.

Communique No 2,281

LD061713 Tehran IRNA in English 1702 GMT 6 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov 6, IRNA — Iran's ground force troops launched a limited offensive against Iraqi positions in Sumar operational region at 01:35 hours (10:05 GMT) Wednesday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi forces, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Wednesday.

Announcing this in its communique number 2281, the command added that the fresh attack came after another successful attack launched by the Islamic Revolution's guards in Mehran region early Tuesday.

[In] artillery duels in Naft Shahr a number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and at least five bunkers, three observation posts and an engineering vehicle of the enemy were also destroyed.

The communique added that Iranian Muslim fighters shelled an Iraqi patrol unit near Kani Sheykh operational region at 21:30 hours (0600 GMT) Tuesday, inflicting casualties upon it and forcing its remaining personnel to flee.

The communique said that in an encounter between a patrol unit of Iran and another unit of Iraq in Nahre-e Anbar at 01:45 hours Tuesday, the latter was forced to flee while sustaining casualties and damage.

All Iraqi operations in the southern fronts especially in Zobaydat were checked and enemy helicopters in these fronts were repelled by Iranian field and anti-aircraft artillery over the past 24 hours.

Iraq's long-range artillery fire on Abadan in Khuzestan Province damaged some points in the city over the past 24 hours, the communique concluded.

Opposition Paper Editorial on Elections, Khomeyni

GF021848 London KAYHAN in Persian 24 Oct 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The Plummeting Curve"]

[Text] A new sound can be heard from Jamaran, the sound of hopelessness, the voice of a person who wished endless fear for the nation. However, now he can see that the end to this fear is not far. No matter how hard Khomeyni tried to remain in the Islamic Republic and away from political clashes and various enemies, it did not work.

From July until now, in the space of 3 months, he has tried three times to keep the lid on clashes which reveal the overall crisis in the Islamic Republic. The election battle for president eventually ended with further interference by Khomeyni. However, the struggle for the prime minister's post was too severe for him to pull the strings behind the scenes, and in the end he was forced to interfere openly. If he had not ordered the Majlis to choose Mir Hoseyn Musavi as prime minister, clashes between Khamene'i and Hashemi-Rafsanjani would still be taking place. The Islamic Majlis, which sourly accepted Khomeyni's interference, rather intended to crucify his proposed ministers.

The fact that only 160 out of 260 members accepted Khomeyni's order was a shocking warning for the 85-year-old leader of the Islamic Republic. If out of 260 of his lackies in the Majlis at least 100 openly disobey his order, how would this compare at the national level? If he is unable to trust 260 members of the Majlis who have all been approved by Friday imams and the Council of Guardians, what is the situation in general among the society?

During his third interference, Khomeyni was forced to call the members to Jamaran and tell them that the Majlis is not a place for the Cabinet to come and go. It is an Islamic consultation Majlis.

Although the problem of the presidency was sorted out with a message, and the problem of the prime minister was temporarily solved through a letter, it was obvious, however, that clashes over the selection of ministers would be a long-term problem. That is why this time Khomeyni called the members to Jamaran so that he could speak to them openly.

It was reported by Tehran *KAYHAN* that the names of ministers who have been suggested by various organizations exceeds 1,000 persons.

A regime that has faced so many quarrels over the election of a president out of three nominees would obviously face a great problem in selecting a few ministers out of 1,000 candidates. However, Khomeyni put pressure on the Majlis to accept Musavi's elected ministers as soon as possible. On 20 October, Mir Hoseyn Musavi presented a list of ministers to President Khamene'i to be introduced to the Majlis.

Khomeyni made the Majlis members understand that if they thought until now they had a certain authority given to them in the constitution, they had better realize their mistake. He said: "bygones will be bygones. A group voted and another voted against the vote of confidence. There is no question about this, but the question is whether they will disagree later on and create obstacles for the Cabinet. They wish to defeat the government." If, as Khomeyni has admitted, many members who have gone through numerous stages of approval itend to lead the Islamic Republic to failure, then the feelings of various sectors of the nation towards the regime must be obvious.

The 85-year-old leader of the Islamic Republic realizes this very well. That is why he said: "this must be prevented. People working on the farms have radios and can hear these problems."

Even a narrow-minded person can see what Khomeyni is afraid of. He knows that even the farmers in faraway villages, not to mention the people who live in the cities and the 10 million people who live in the capital, are enthusiastically following the crisis within the Cabinet and the Government of the Islamic Republic.

In his letter to the Majlis, Khomeyni only once mentioned "the very complicated situation in the country". In his latest speech, he once mentioned the "sensitive situation" and reminded them of "the possibility of problems arising". He even said that today the country is not as calm as other places so that the Majlis could hold lengthy discussions on the ministers.

Khomeyni knows very well that it would be impossible for a crisis such as has taken over the regime not to spread to other sectors and throughout society. In his warning to the members of the Islamic Majlis, he once again warned the military forces, from the army to the Guards Corps, not to interfere with political affairs. He said: "They must listen but they must not interfere." However, Khomeyni's advice is the same as a painkiller drug. Its frequent use is a sure sign that it is no longer as effective as it was at the beginning. Therefore, in the very near future we will once again be witness to Khomeyni's interference, which each time becomes less effective. The plummeting curve of Khomeyni's power is reaching an obvious horizontal line.

Mujahidin Attacks in Afghanistan Reported

GF020515 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Afghan Muslim revolutionaries have attacked an airbase belonging to the joint forces of the Afghan regulars and the occupiers in southern Afghanistan, destroying the military hardware at this base. They also killed seven Afghan regular soldiers. The Central News Unit, quoting mujahidin sources indicates that the mujahidin staged the attack with 107-mm rockets.

Last week, they attacked the airbase in Farah Province and destroyed one military aircraft, two helicopters, five military vehicles, and a radar station.

According to this report, in retaliation for this mujahidin attack, the joint forces attacked the villages around this airbase last Monday, matrying seven of the villages' Muslim inhabitants.

IRNA Reports Afghan Rebels Down Helicopters

LD050825 Tehran IRNA in English 0742 GMT 5 Nov 85

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 5, IRNA — Afghan mujahidin raided enemy outposts in the capital city of Kapisa Province, where 33 enemy soldiers and officers were killed or wounded in late October. One mujahid was martyred and five others were injured in the raid.

Another report from north Afghanistan said that the Soviets launched an offensive against the mujahidin around Mazar-e Sharif. They landed their forces in Marmol-Shadian and Sholghar areas. However, due to the strong resistance of the Afghan mujahidin, the enemy troops were forced to leave the area in a week. No details of loss of life of either side has been received so far.

Afghan mujahidin also shot down two enemy helicopters during the recent operation in Lowgar and Parwan Provinces. In this operation, 22 Soviet-Karmal troops were killed, while three tanks and two oil tangers were also destroyed.